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BREAKING UP THE HOSPITAL-SHIP "DREADNOUGHT" AT CHATHAM DOCKYARD.

This is hardly the fittest time for reviewing his political career. He has passed out of the circle of official life; but he is still amongst us, and we hope may continue to be so for many years to come. What his present occupations may be, or whereto they may lead—whether he is likely more efficiently to serve his generation by substituting the use of the press for the rôle of a statesman, and making the pen his instrument instead of the voice—it is not for us to pronounce. He is within his own right, and should be left untroubled by external criticisms to the guidance of his own judgment. If he had been snatched from us by death—which, happily, is not the case—if there had remained no earthly possibility that after a season of long drawn-out repose he might again catch the voice of duty summoning him in irresistible tones to the front rank of political strife; if, in a word, we could look upon him as cut off henceforth and for ever from that arena upon which he has won his profusion of laurels; we might feel free to sketch the characteristic features of his course as a British statesman. Respect for him forbids the freedom whilst he still lives, for nothing is more calculated to subject a lofty nature to painful humiliation than that unrestrained praise which itself has called forth. But there are some aspects of his political course which it can hardly be inappropriate and still less offensive, to recognise, even in his living presence. We shall not speculate on what may be the political consequences to his party, or to his country, of his secession from the post he held. We shall not discuss the comparative merits of his probable successor. We shall not even assume the expediency or inexpediency of the great measures which were introduced and passed under his auspices. But, sensible as we are that the kingdom has sustained a great loss by Mr. Gladstone's withdrawal from the responsible position which he held in Parliament, we cannot think it altogether out of place to note two or three of those features of what has been taken from us, so far, at least, as may tend to impress us with a thankful appreciation of what we have enjoyed.

Thus much, we believe, will be universally admitted in reference to Mr. Gladstone's lengthened career of political service. It has tended to reveal to the mind of the country, more than had been previously done, the scope presented by political life for the exercise of the noblest faculties and the broadest sympathies of human nature. From the beginning to the end of his official career Mr. Gladstone exhibited the clearest indications of that permeating sense of responsibility within the sphere which he filled, which roots itself in profound religious sentiment. That he listened to the promptings of ambition it would be vain to deny; he had his weaknesses as well as others. But conscience and a clear conviction of duty evidently exerted upon him a paramount influence. He attempted what he attempted from motives which would bear both being looked into, and being looked back upon. His "point of departure" in all his great undertakings was a lofty one, and hence the impetus given to his practical efforts by the fixedness and earnestness of his will. His tone was, perhaps, too uniformly serious—too little lighted up with gleams of pleasantness. Possibly he was unable to enter into the more lightsome feelings of those whom he led to battle. But he almost unconsciously added new dignity to, while he illustrated the immense importance of, official political life; and he is entitled to the gratitude of all parties for having displayed in his own conduct the functions of statesmanship free from any of those stains with which they have been too frequently tarnished. He has raised the standard of public service, has elevated the tone of political labour, and has given to the world abundant evidence that the best, the highest, and the least perishable elements of human nature may find fit and full development in the sphere of legislative and administrative effort.

The House of Commons will hardly know what to make of itself in his absence. For many years past, with the sole exception of a portion of last Session, his form, his voice, his effusive eloquence, his practical mastery of all the details of all the various questions which came up for discussion, seemed to belong to that deliberative body as a kind of inheritance which was shared as of right by all its members, on which side soever of the House they might sit. Above all other men, Mr. Disraeli will miss the stimulus applied to his intellectual energy by the presence of his great antagonist. No doubt, there are still in the ranks of the party formerly led by Mr. Gladstone several able and variously-gifted men. Perhaps, too, deprived of their chief, they will develop into greater strength and prominence qualities which have remained until now comparatively latent. We have no fear for the creditable transaction of public business, no suspicion that Parliamentary life is likely to degenerate. For a season, it may be, dulness may predominate. It is certain that our rising statesmen will require time and discipline to place them anywhere near the heights lately occupied by Mr. Gladstone. But the right hon. gentleman would be amongst the foremost to recognise the fact that human progress, either in her sphere of politics, or, indeed, in any other sphere, does not depend upon any one man. The great contest between right and wrong will go on notwithstanding the removal of this or the other chief. The inevitable strife will as inevitably secure in the end "the survival of the fittest," and each successive generation will be favoured with heroes upon whom to lavish its reverence and trust.

THE COURT.

The Queen and the members of the Royal family are suffering intense anxiety in consequence of the serious illness of Prince Leopold, and Sir William Jenner, M.D., Dr. Hoffmeister, and Dr. Marshall are in constant attendance upon his Royal Highness at Osborne. It was announced on Thursday week that the Prince, although very weak, was convalescent from the attack of typhoid fever from which he had been suffering. Two days after all fever had subsided his Royal Highness suffered from hemorrhage, which greatly increased the existing weakness. On Monday the following bulletin was issued:—"Prince Leopold slept well last night. Although the hemorrhage has not returned, his Royal Highness continues extremely weak." On Tuesday the following notification was made:—"Prince Leopold slept for several hours last night. The hemorrhage returned yesterday afternoon and early this morning. Although somewhat weaker, there is no material change in his Royal Highness's general condition." On Wednesday the annexed was issued:—"Prince Leopold passed a very quiet night and slept for several hours. There has been no recurrence of the hemorrhage since yesterday afternoon. His Royal Highness is in no respect weaker than yesterday." Thursday's bulletin is as follows:—"Prince Leopold suffered much yesterday evening from nausea, and had some return of hemorrhage. After midnight his Royal Highness slept for several hours. The weakness this morning is somewhat greater than yesterday." Telegraphic communication of the condition of the Prince is constantly being forwarded to the several members of the Royal family absent from Osborne. The Duke of Edinburgh, who was on a visit to the Earl and Countess of Dudley, at Witley Court, in consequence of the serious import of the telegrams received, left on Wednesday and travelled direct from Worcester to Osborne.

The festivities which were to have taken place this week at Cumberland Lodge, Windsor, during the visit of the Prince of Wales to Prince and Princess Christian, have been dispensed with. A dance which was to have been given at Cumberland Lodge on Tuesday was postponed, and the celebration of Prince Christian's birthday, yesterday (Friday), was deferred.

According to the *London Medical Record*, there is much, although not the usual, ground for anxiety in the text of the bulletins of Prince Leopold's physicians. Hemorrhage following typhoid fever, in an ordinary case, is of very evil omen; usually it implies an acute form of the enteric disease, and consequent severe perils in the ultimate results of the fever. Here, however, the fever has been light, and the patient has passed through its singularly regular stages. Prince Leopold has been all his life liable to local hemorrhages; the hemorrhage is an accident outside the course of the disease. Its gravity is to be measured by the extent to which it debilitates.

The Queen, accompanied by Princess Beatrice, drove from Osborne on Wednesday week, and met the 49th Regiment (Princess Charlotte of Wales's) on the march from West Cowes to Parkhurst, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel FitzGerald, after landing from her Majesty's ship Jumna on its return from India.

On the following day the Queen and Princess Beatrice visited Mrs. Prothero at Whippingham Rectory. Mr. Theodore Martin arrived at Osborne.

The Marquis of Salisbury arrived at Osborne yesterday week and had an audience of her Majesty, and, with Mr. Theodore Martin, dined with the Queen.

On Sunday her Majesty and Princess Beatrice attended Divine service, performed at Osborne by the Rev. George Connor, Vicar of Newport, Isle of Wight.

The Queen and Princess Beatrice have walked and driven out daily in the grounds of the Royal demesne.

Lord Charles Fitzroy and Lord Frederick Kerr have succeeded Colonel Du Plat and Sir Edmund Commerell as Equerry and Groom in Waiting. Colonel G. Maude, C.B., has arrived at Osborne.

Three of the children of the Crown Prince and Crown Princess of Germany are suffering from an attack of measles.

The Duke of Connaught arrived at Alexandria on Saturday last, and proceeded to Cairo, en route to the Holy Land.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Prince of Wales, who had arrived at Marlborough House from Sandringham, left town on Monday for Windsor, on a visit to Prince and Princess Christian at Cumberland Lodge. On Tuesday the Prince, with Prince Christian, accompanied by Lord Carington, the Earl of Hardwicke, and Mr. Bernal Osborne, hunted with the Royal pack of buckhounds. The meet was held at Salt-hill, near Slough, where a "field" of some 500 equestrians and a large company in carriages was assembled. An untried hind was started, which trotted off in the direction of Stoke. Ten minutes after the chase commenced, when the hind piloted the field round Stoke Park, thence away for Farnham Royal and on for Beaconsfield, and was taken after a very satisfactory run. On Wednesday the Prince, accompanied by Prince Christian and a party of about twelve guns, had several hours' shooting over the Norfolk Farm, near Virginia Water. On Thursday their Royal Highnesses and a large party went shooting in Windsor Great Park. Yesterday (Friday) the meet of the Royal buckhounds was at Mr. Headington's, Redstone Farm, Waltham, near Winkfield, where the Prince and Prince Christian were expected to be present, the Prince returning to town in the evening.

The Princess of Wales, with her family, remains at Sandringham House.

By desire of the Prince, Sir William Gull, M.D., proceeded to Eversley on Tuesday to visit the Rev. Canon Kingsley (who was suffering from severe inflammation of the right lung), to consult with his medical attendant.

On the recommendation of the Prime Minister, the Queen has granted a pension of £50 a year to the widow of Giovanni Battista Falciari, the faithful servant of Lord Byron.

Lord Justice Sir William M. James has accepted the office of arbitrator under the European Assurance Society Arbitration Act.

Mr. Douglas C. Richmond, late secretary to the Endowed Schools Commission, has been appointed to be the additional secretary to the Charity Commissioners under the Endowed Schools Act of last Session. The administration of the Endowed Schools Acts will be continued for the present at 2, Victoria-street, Westminster.

At a meeting held in Glasgow, on Monday, it was resolved to form a mission at Lake Nyanza, in Central Africa, to be called Livingstonia, in honour of the late Dr. Livingstone. Subscriptions were intimated at the meeting amounting to £4200. Mr. James Young, of Kelly, and Mr. James Stevenson, of Glasgow, each subscribed £1000.

A deputation, representing Sheffield, Rotherham, Doncaster, and other places situated on the River Dun, had an interview with Mr. Cross and Mr. Slater-Booth last Saturday and brought under their notice the polluted state of that stream. They were assured that the question was receiving the attention of the Government.

THE NEW IRISH LORD CHANCELLOR.

The Right Hon. John Thomas Ball, LL.D., of Merton, in the county of Dublin, late Irish Attorney-General, but now appointed Lord Chancellor of Ireland, is a son of the late Major Benjamin Marcus Ball, of the 40th Foot. He was born in the year 1815, and was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, where he took his Bachelor's degree with high honours in 1836. He was called to the Irish Bar in Michaelmas Term, 1840, and has been a Bencher of the King's Inns, Dublin, since 1863. In 1850 he obtained the honour of a silk gown; he was successively Solicitor-General and Attorney-General for Ireland during Mr. Disraeli's administration in 1868. He has been one of the Parliamentary representatives of the University of Dublin since the year 1868. He was created an honorary Doctor of Laws at Oxford in 1870, and was sworn a Privy Councillor in 1868. Dr. Ball married, in 1852, Catherine, daughter of the Rev. Charles R. Elrington, Regius Professor of Divinity in the University of Dublin. Mr. Henry Ormsby, Q.C., the late Solicitor-General, now succeeds Dr. Ball in the Attorney-Generalship. Mr. Ormsby has never held a seat in the House of Commons. The Hon. David Robert Plunket, Q.C., who succeeds Mr. H. Ormsby as Solicitor-General, is a son of the third Lord Plunket, and grandson of the first Lord Plunket, the orator and lawyer, who held the Great Seal in Ireland from 1830 to 1841. He has represented the University of Dublin in the Conservative interest since 1870. The portrait of the new Lord Chancellor is from a photograph by Mr. John Watkins, of Parliament street, Westminster.

THE END OF H.M.S. DREADNOUGHT.

In one of the dry docks of her Majesty's Naval Dockyard at Chatham, not many days ago, was to be seen the laborious destruction of an old British three-decker "man-of-war." This is the sometime Caledonia, of 120 broadside guns, which took the name of H.M.S. Dreadnought, her predecessor at the moorings off Deptford, when given over to the Seamen's Hospital Society in 1856. The Grampus, a fifty-gun frigate, was the first vessel used there as a floating hospital, from 1821 to 1830; then came the old Dreadnought, the original Dreadnought, which has long since been reduced to firewood; and the ship which is now going to pieces at Chatham, latterly known as Dreadnought No. 2, or, in a higher style of writing, Dreadnought II., was on the station of charity till November, 1872. The sick sailors of all nations' merchantmen were accommodated in this floating hospital to the number of two hundred, together with the medical staff and attendants. They were removed, in the spring of 1870, to a part of the Royal Hospital at Greenwich, then made vacant by the departure of the old naval pensioners. But the Metropolitan Asylums Board, during the next two years, had the use of the ship for the reception of smallpox patients, when that epidemic was too pressing for the hospitals appropriated to infectious diseases in and around London. In November, 1872, as we have observed, the ship was taken off hospital duty, and was towed down to Chatham. An illustration of this was given in our Journal at the time. The last scene in the history of the old three-decker is now shown in the Engraving on our front page. It may be regarded with the same kind of feeling as Turner's famous picture of the "Fighting Temeraire."

The Essex Agricultural Society will hold its annual meeting this year at Brentwood. Lord Carlingford has been elected president for the year.

The Duke of Cambridge presided, on Wednesday, at a meeting on behalf of the Richmond Infirmary, and so effectually pleaded its claims that a sum of upwards of £800 was secured to the institution.

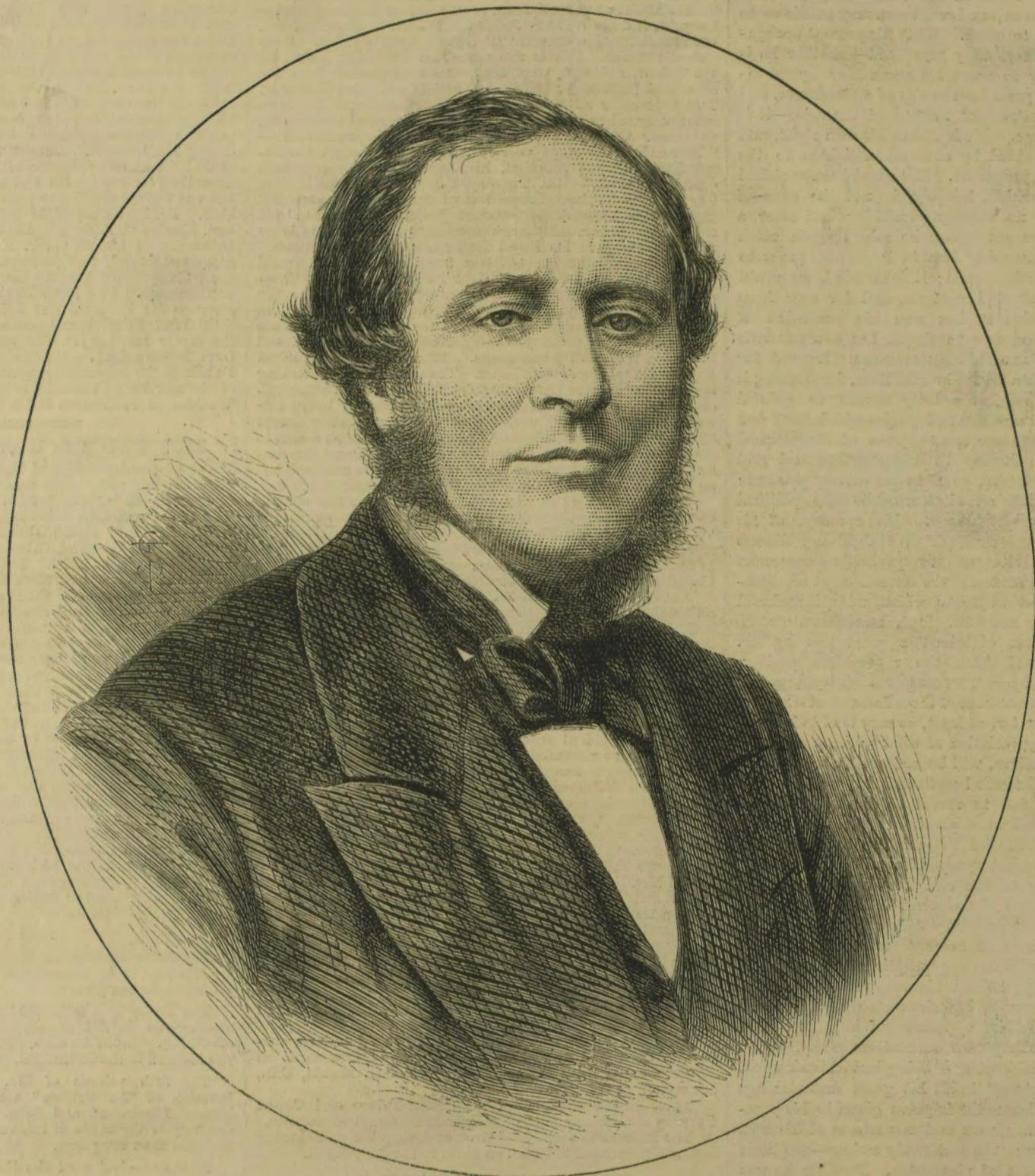
The fifth volume of Mr. Kinglake's "History of the Invasion of the Crimea" was published on Tuesday by Messrs. Blackwood and Sons. The volume is devoted exclusively to the battle of Inkerman, and the narrative occupies no fewer than 460 pages.

At the conclusion of the Board of Trade inquiry into the loss of the steamer Violet, of Glasgow, off the Lizard, the Court considered the master was perfectly justified in abandoning the ship to provide for the safety of the crew, and returned his certificate, at the same time expressing an opinion that the vessel left Constantinople overloaded and unseaworthy.

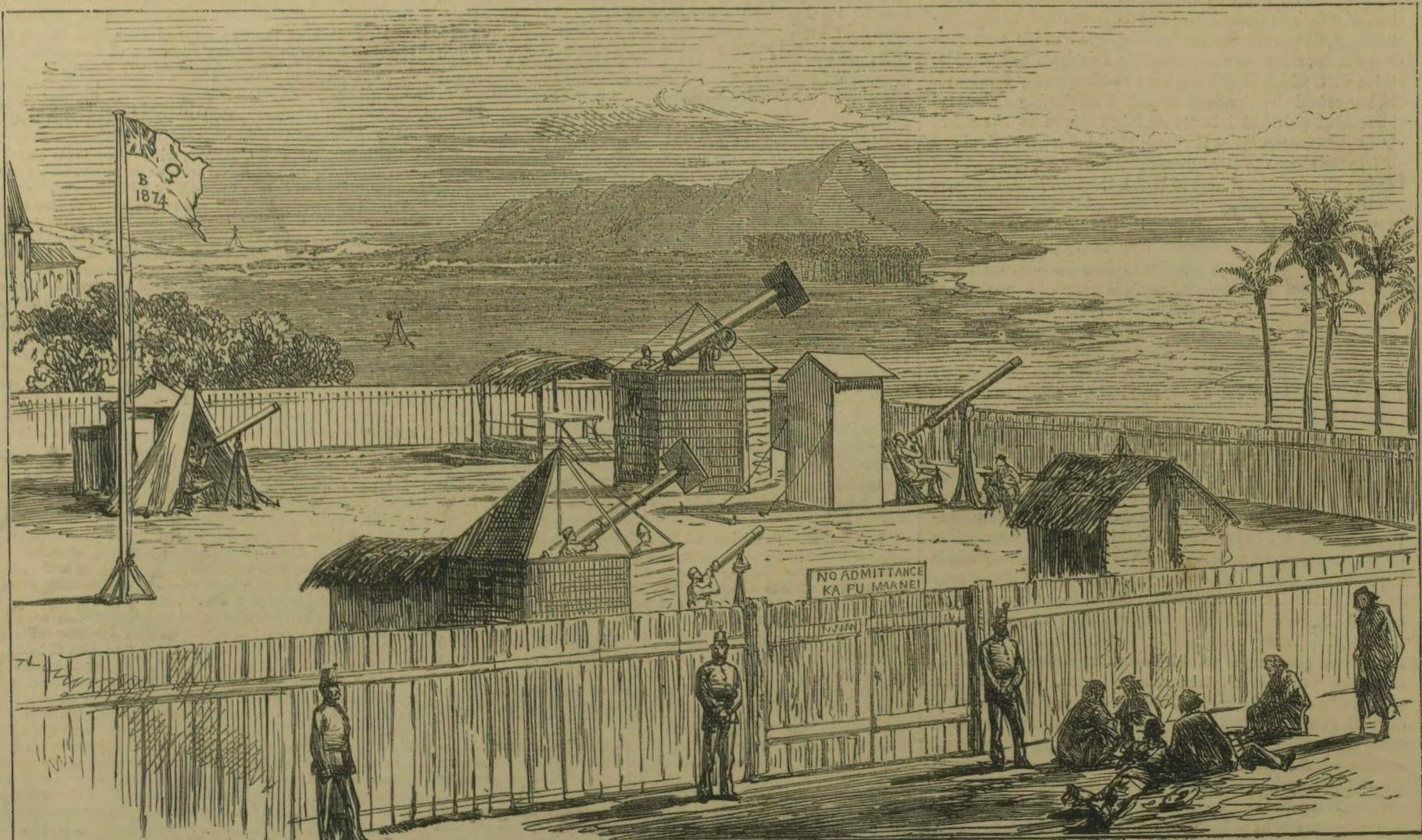
M. Lefuel, of the Academy of Fine Arts, Paris, has been appointed president of the Institute of France for 1875; the vice-presidents being M. Patin, of the French Academy; M. Maury, of Inscriptions and Belles Lettres; M. Baudrillart, of the Sciences Morales et Politiques; and M. Fremy, of the Academy of Sciences. M. Delaborde, of the Academy of Fine Arts, is named secretary.

The Trade Union Congress, which represents about 662,000 working men, met at Liverpool, on Monday, under the chairmanship of Mr. James Fitzpatrick, of Liverpool, boiler-maker. A secretary and treasurer were elected; and the committee, having referred to the changes rendered necessary in their plans by the sudden dissolution of Parliament, called attention to various subjects which they had under their consideration, and which will be brought up for discussion. On Tuesday Mr. Fitzpatrick, the president, delivered the opening address, in the course of which he alluded to the necessity for amending the labour laws, and spoke strongly of the delay which had taken place in redressing grievances deeply felt by the working classes. Mr. H. Crompton read a paper on the law of conspiracy, arguing that there was too much power in the hands of the Judges. Various resolutions on that and kindred topics were passed. At the sitting on Wednesday a resolution was passed declaring against the acceptance of any alteration of the Masters' and Servants' Act which did not abolish the criminality now attached to breach of contract. Another resolution condemned the law of conspiracy.

The Academy states that Dr. Andreas, who left England last week, and who is employed by the German Government on a scientific exploring expedition to Persia, will first proceed to Shiraz, where he will be joined by a photographer. Dr. Andreas will then explore the province of Khuzistan, the ancient Susiana, and valuable results may be anticipated from his labours; for he is a ripe scholar, and is deeply impressed with the necessity for combining sound geography and a knowledge of early writers on topography with archaeological investigations. He has made himself familiar with all that has been written by Tabari, Istakhri, and Ibn Haukal on the localities which he is about to visit. Many mistakes may be traced to a want of knowledge of the early writers, especially in the identification of sites; and we may confidently anticipate rich fruits from the exact knowledge and scholarly training which Dr. Andreas will bring to bear upon this field of research. The region which will first receive his attention is most interesting, for it includes the sites of Susa, of many Sassanian ruins and inscriptions, and the scene of the first victorious campaign of Ardashir Babegad. It is probable that, after completing his investigations in Khuzistan, Dr. Andreas will extend his travels to the unvisited city of Lar in Fars.



THE RIGHT HON. J. T. BALL, LL.D., THE NEW LORD CHANCELLOR OF IRELAND.



THE TRANSIT OF VENUS: WAITING FOR CONTACT AT HONOLULU.



SKETCHES OF STATIONS WHERE THE TRANSIT OF VENUS WAS OBSERVED.

THE TRANSIT OF VENUS.

We have been favoured by the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres with four photographs representing the private astronomical observatory which his son, Lord Lindsay, has, at his own cost and under his personal direction, established in the Island of Mauritius, to co-operate with the several observatory stations provided by her Majesty's Government in other remote parts of the globe, for the precise determination of an important scientific problem. Lieutenant Francis E. Ramsden, R.N., had also, by the Astronomer Royal's permission, sent us from Honolulu, Sandwich Islands, on Nov. 13, a series of photographs, with brief notes upon the voyage of his party, the places they visited, and their preparations for the astronomical observation expected on Dec. 8. But another officer at the Honolulu station, Lieutenant E. J. W. Noble, R.M.A., writing from that place on the 11th ult., three days after the occurrence, now supplies us with a report of their actual experience upon that occasion, and with an illustration of their watching attitude.

The following is a description of some of their special astronomical instruments for this service:—

"There is one transit instrument employed only for observing meridional transits of the moon and stars; of the moon, in order to determine the longitude; and of the stars, to determine the time—that is, the error and rate of the standard clock in connection with this apparatus. The equatorial instrument is the principal telescope used for observing the 'eye observations' of the transit on Dec. 8. The diameter of the object-glass is 6 in., and its focal length about 7 ft. The telescope is driven equatorially by a clock, which can be adjusted to any rate required. Beyond merely observing the internal contact at ingress or egress, as the case may be, a micrometer capable of showing a double image of the sun's limb and the planet is employed, whereby measurements can be made either before or after contact, the times being recorded. The next instrument, the photo-heliograph, is likewise moved by a clock. Its mounting is equatorial, the diameter of its object-glass being 4 in., and its focal length about 5 ft. The object-glass is so constructed as fully to utilise the actinic or photographic rays. Behind the primary focus is placed a strong magnifier, which enlarges the image to a diameter of four inches on the sensitive plate, which is six inches square. The exposure is given by severing a thread, which allows a slide, with a slit ranging between one and five tenths of an inch, and drawn by the tension of a piece of string fastened to a spiral steel spring, to cross the field. The exposure only lasts for about the hundredth part of a second. By this method photographs of the sun can be taken every two minutes, the time being accurately noted. The appearance of the planet on the negative is that of a large spot. At the moments, however, of internal contact, at ingress and egress, there will be substituted for the above a different method, by which a circular plate in a slide revolved by hand, and exposing the same part of the sun's limb at every second for fifty seconds, will begin its revolutions about thirty seconds before the moment of contact is calculated to take place. The exposure is given simultaneously with the beats of a chronometer, and it is hoped that a picture thus taken and corresponding to a definite second of time will show the actual contact, or breaking of contact, of the planet with the limb of the sun."

"The 'model Venus' is a contrivance whereby the observation of the transit was rehearsed beforehand. A small black sphere, to represent the planet, is drawn by clockwork across the face of a triangle, the sides of which represent the limb of the sun. Behind this apparatus a mirror is placed, as shown in our Illustration; and a bright reflection of sunlight is kept on the moving planet and on the object-glasses of the observing telescopes, which are placed at a distance of 800 ft. away. The time of contact of the planet with the sun's limb was to be observed. This observation was to be made by three observers at three telescopes, acting independently of each other, and in strict silence; the times were to be recorded, and afterwards to be compared. The leading aim, therefore, of the previous experiments was to accustom the observers to the class of phenomena with which they would have to deal on the occasion of the actual transit."

The huts erected by the party of observers on the elevated plain of Santiago, in Chili, South America, to protect these valuable instruments, are shown in our Engravings at the lower part of the page. In order to keep them cool, the roofs were covered, in some instances, with rushes, which were continually watered. This party enjoyed a glorious view of the neighbouring Andes, 12,000 ft. high, with the far loftier summit of Aconcagua, sixty miles distant.

The following is our correspondent's note describing the actual observation of the transit of Venus at Honolulu, on the 8th ult.:—

"The day was very hot, but quite cloudless. A small guard was landed from H.M.S. Scout, the senior officer's ship here, to prevent people making a noise near the inclosure. Captain Tupman, R.M.A., the chief officer of the service, was at the 6-inch equatorial, and Mr. Nicol at the 4½-inch equatorial; both fitted with double-image micrometers. Mr. Noble was at a detached 3½-inch Greenwich telescope, mounted near the alt azimuth hut; and Lieutenant Ramsden, R.N., worked the photo-heliograph, with three non-commissioned officers of the Royal Engineers as assistants. The external contact was observed by Captain Tupman through the spectroscope, and the internal contact by the observers at their respective telescopes. Mr. Ramsden took as many photos as possible of the sun with Venus on it till it got too low. The internal contact took place at 3h. 35m. 54s. Honolulu mean time. The sun set with the planet on it, and Venus was then quite visible to the naked eye."

"The natives took great interest in the event. They stared at the sun through smoked glass, and clambered up trees to have a look at us at work, but were perfectly quiet, and the guard had nothing to do. Our inclosure is about half a mile from the town, close to the beach, on a long plain stretching away to a bold headland, an extinct crater, called Diamond Head. Professor Forbes was disappointed by a cloud at Hawaii, and missed the contact. Mr. Johnson saw the contact at Kanai, these two being subsidiary stations to Honolulu."

There is yet another station to be noticed, among those represented in our Illustrations this week. It is the one at Thebes, in Upper Egypt, which was occupied by Captain Abney, R.E., with three Sappers, forming a branch of the station at Cairo, under Captain Orde Browne. The private expedition of Colonel Campbell, of Blythewood, was also at Thebes, and his party encamped close to that of Captain Abney, within sight of the grand ruins of Luxor. There were also Russian and Prussian astronomical observing stations in the neighbourhood.

Under the presidency of Mr. Chamberlain, Mayor of Birmingham, a meeting of representatives of municipal corporations was held at the Westminster Hotel, on Tuesday, on the subject of the Borough Funds Bill and other matters. Resolutions in favour of amending that measure as regards the restrictions it puts on action with respect to applications to Parliament, were adopted; and it was agreed that the municipal and Parliamentary registers ought to be consolidated.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our Correspondent in Paris.)

Thursday, Jan. 21.

The constitutional measures having to wait until the protracted debates on the military law are concluded, the political situation remains much the same. The only fact of importance is that whereas, eight days ago, ex-Premier de Broglie was generally announced as the chief of the coming Ministry, it is at present the Due d'Audiffret Pasquier who has the most chance of presiding over the new Government. At one moment a de Broglie-d'Audiffret Administration was talked of; but, the ex-Prime Minister insisting on a compromise with the Bonapartists, the projected combination fell to the ground. M. d'Audiffret has pronounced himself in favour of the impersonal Septennate, and this, it is said, at the suggestion of the Comte de Paris, who believes that the maintenance of the *status quo* will inevitably lead to the restoration of the Constitutional Monarchy, besides paralysing the action of the Bonapartists, at whose progress he, in common with the political world generally, is growing alarmed.

The recent elections unquestionably indicate a revulsion of opinion in favour of the Imperialists. On Sunday their candidate in the Hautes Pyrénées, M. Cazeaux, defeated the Orleans-Septennat nominee by a majority of 6000 votes; still, it is generally believed that this result was in a measure due to electoral corruption, and the Orleanist prints—which ought to be well informed—announce that the préfet of the department has addressed a despatch on the subject to the Minister of the Interior. The Parliamentary Committee appointed to inquire into the intrigues of the Committee of Appeal to the People, which is composed almost exclusively of Republicans and Legitimists, is energetically prosecuting its investigations.

The new military law upon which the Assembly is still engaged has given rise to some rather exciting incidents. Thus there was a veritable Parliamentary battle on the question as to whether each regiment of infantry should be composed of four or of six companies; and another as to whether the sappers and miners should be attached to the engineers or to the artillery. The Assembly decided in the first instance in favour of four companies, while in the second it handed the sappers and miners over to the artillery. These decisions appear to have greatly displeased M. St. Genest, the well-known military critic of the *Figaro*, who violently attacked the Chamber, and procured for M. de Villemessant's paper, whose old protector, M. de Fourton, is no longer in office, a menacingly-worded communiqué intimating that the Government was firmly resolved not to tolerate such attacks for the future.

The Imperialist organ, *Le Pays*, having maintained that General de Wimpffen was responsible for the capitulation of Sedan, the latter, armed with the decision of the Committee of the Assembly which adjudged the responsibility of that disaster to its true author, the ex-Emperor Napoleon III., has brought an action for libel against M. Paul de Cassagnac, notorious for his duelistic proclivities. Maître Grandperret, who appeared for the Bonapartist *spadassin*, maintained that the Correctional Tribunal was incompetent, and demanded that the affair should be sent before the Assize Court of the Seine, the Government Procureur-Général supporting this view. General de Wimpffen's advocate, M. Jules Favre, opposed the motion, on the ground that the jury of the Assize Court would render a mere verdict without giving its reasons, whereas the Correctional Tribunal would deliver a formal judgment, setting forth the grounds of its decision, which was what General de Wimpffen required. The Court reserved its judgment.

The authorities are at length taking measures in reference to the projected submarine tunnel between France and England, and an order of the Préfet of the Pas-de-Calais authorises the agents of the company that has been formed to visit and survey the private property of all persons the railway line will pass through on its way to the seashore.

SPAIN.

King Alfonso entered Madrid in state on Thursday week. The *Times*' correspondent states that his reception was grandly enthusiastic. His Majesty was met at the station by the Ministry, the Generals, the civil and religious corporations, and numerous deputations of official bodies. The first to kiss hands was Canovas. The people outside the station and along the line continually and warmly cheered the Royal procession to the Atocha Church. After a Te Deum, the procession marched along the Prado, the Calle Alcalá, the Puerta del Sol, and the Calle Mayor to the palace. The whole route was lined with troops and by dense, but most orderly, crowds. The cavalcade was imposing from the brilliancy of the military uniforms. The King rode well upon a magnificent white charger, and bowed constantly in response to the cheers with which he was hailed. The houses were all hung with rich draperies. After the arrival at the palace and the official reception, the King proceeded down the grand staircase outside the palace, where he mounted his horse and presented himself to the troops of all arms, who cheered as their officers saluted. A few officers, it was observed, omitted the salute. There was but little cheering from the crowd save when the King first appeared. He looked all day joyous and happy, and his graceful bearing charmed the populace. Primo de Rivera and Conde de Cheste occupied the chief places by his side at the review, and the staff of generals and subalterns was brilliant in the extreme. The city was illuminated in the evening, and the streets were

were greatly thronged. King Alfonso drove out in an open carriage, and met with a cordial reception from the people.

Bands of music in the public squares played the Royal March as his Majesty passed. The Ministers and the civil and military authorities dined with the King, and the diplomatic corps were entertained by the Minister of the Interior.

King Alfonso was occupied on Friday and Saturday with official and public receptions. His Majesty, at a Cabinet Council, signed decrees relating to the payment of the coupons of the exterior debt and to the salaries of the clergy, declaring that he desired firmly to maintain religious liberty. On the same occasion the King expressed a wish that his Generals should keep aloof from politics. On Friday night he visited the Royal Opera, and on Saturday the Principe Theatre, and was enthusiastically greeted by the audience at both.

The Countess of Montijo, mother of the ex-Empress Eugénie, has paid a visit of congratulation to the King.

His Majesty held a reception at the palace on Sunday evening, and it is stated that several Generals formerly belonging to the Republican party were present.

King Alfonso arrived at Guadalajara on Tuesday, and was most enthusiastically received there. A similar reception awaited him later in the day at Alhama, where he passed the night. On Wednesday morning his Majesty left for Saragossa, and on arriving there was again warmly received.

It is stated that the Army of the North, when it resumes operations, will be provided with 160 guns. Five thousand Carlists are said to have been repulsed in an attack made by

them on Romales, a place garrisoned by only 300 men. The Carlists also attacked the town of Molix, in Aragon, but were repulsed and fled precipitately, losing many killed and wounded and thirty-seven prisoners.

Orders have been given to the commander of the Spanish squadron off Zaranz to inflict severe punishment on the inhabitants of that town for the outrage committed with regard to the German ship Gustav. An indemnity is to be exacted, with the alternative of bombardment.

ITALY.

In Monday's sitting of the Chamber of Deputies Signor Minghetti announced that on Monday next he will submit some financial bills and explain their object.

Italy has withdrawn from her commercial treaty with France, and appealed to Austria and Switzerland for a revision of the conventions with those countries.

Last Sunday the Pope received a German deputation to present congratulations to his Holiness. The Abbé Wall read a speech expressing affection and devotion towards the Pope, and assuring him that nothing that might occur could detach Catholic Germany from the Holy See. The Pope, in reply, praised the fidelity of which Germany had given such striking proofs, and said he prayed for the persecuted Catholics and their persecutors.

The Pope, on Tuesday, received a deputation of inhabitants of the Argentine Confederation, who presented the homage of the Catholics of La Plata, and an offering of money collected in Buenos Ayres. The Pope blessed the donors.

Archbishop Manning will, it is stated by a Roman paper, be one of nine new Cardinals to be appointed at a Consistory held at the Vatican in March next.

HOLLAND.

The Dutch appear to have obtained a considerable success in Atchin. The following telegram, dated the 9th inst., has been published:—"The troops have captured nine fortifications at Longbattah. The Dutch loss was twenty-one killed and sixty-five wounded, while that of the enemy was 171 killed. The squadron left on the 2nd inst. for the west coast. A portion of Pedir has offered its submission."

BELGIUM.

In the Chamber of Deputies, on Wednesday, a motion in favour of international arbitration was adopted by 81 votes to 2.

GERMANY.

Prince Frederick Charles of Prussia met with an accident yesterday week. While entering his carriage in Berlin he slipped, and so injured his left leg that he will have to keep his room for a short time.

The German Parliament concluded the second reading of the Civil Marriage Bill on Tuesday, adopting an additional paragraph which empowers the various federal Governments to put the law in force, if they think it desirable, before Jan. 1, 1876. Clause 40, by which marriage is only legal when contracted before a State official, was carried, last Saturday, by 184 votes against 91. The members of a committee to prepare bills for organising the judicial system have been elected.

Herr Camphausen, the Vice-President of the Ministry, opened the Prussian Diet at Berlin, last Saturday, in the name of the King, and read the Royal Speech, which dwelt upon the satisfactory state of the finances, named several items of increased expenditure, and promised bills on various subjects of domestic and ecclesiastical legislation. The Upper House re-elected Count Stolberg as President, and Herr von Bernuth as first, and Herr von Hasselbach as second, Vice-President. Herr von Bennigsen was, on Monday, elected President of the Chamber of Deputies; being supported by 292 out of the 295 members voting. Herr Löwe was elected first Vice-President by 211, and Herr Bethy-Hue second Vice-President, by 186 votes. Herr Camphausen, the Minister of Finance, brought forward the Budget in Tuesday's sitting of the Lower House. He estimates the revenue for 1875 at 694,422,613 marks, or 3,871,438 less than in 1874, and the ordinary expenditure at 613,830,050 marks, an increase of 17,585,807. The extraordinary expenditure is estimated at 80,592,563 marks, or 2,562,775 more than in 1874. The public debt, it is said, stands at a lower figure than at any previous period within recollection. It amounts to 929,287,108 marks, and is compensated for by the possession of the railways by the State. The interest on the debt is met by the profits from the working of the railways.

The deposed Bishop Martin, of Paderborn, is to be confined in the fortress of Wesel, and the business of his diocese will be carried on by lay officials. The seminary for priests at Fulda was closed on Monday by the authorities. The Bishop's property has been sequestered, and the head priest, Herr Helfrich Dipperz, has been expelled from German territory.

RUSSIA.

A St. Petersburg telegram to the *Times* informs us that the Khan of Khiva has sent another instalment of the war contribution imposed on him in 1873. It amounts to 21,400 roubles, and arrived at Fort Petrovsk on Dec. 14. The Khan has also promised to send the balance in three weeks.

SWEDEN.

The Parliament was opened on Monday, and the Speech from the Throne states that proposals had been drawn up by the Government for reorganising the army and navy and establishing compulsory military service. The Chambers will be asked to make considerable grants of money for increasing the rolling stock on the State railways. Last year's surplus amounted to 12,000,000 crowns.

AUSTRO-HUNGARY.

In Wednesday's sitting of the Lower House of the Reichsrath a letter, signed by the majority of the Czech members for Bohemia, was read declaring that they cannot comply with the summons addressed to them to take their seats in the Reichsrath. They defend the position they have taken up on the ground of Bohemia's historical rights. A letter from the young Czech deputies, Herren Sladkowsky, Gregr, and Trojan, makes their attendance in the House dependent upon a decision of the majority of the Bohemian Diet. The House thereupon passed a resolution declaring the absence of the Czech members unjustifiable. A motion to refer the first letter to a committee was rejected.

A council of the Cis-Leithan and Trans-Leithan Ministers was held last week at Pesth, at which a complete agreement upon the question of the Army Budget was attained. Considerable reductions of expenditure were determined upon. After a fruitless discussion, lasting several hours, the budget committee concluded its deliberations upon the means proposed for covering the deficit. In the course of this discussion, the Minister of Finance stated that he should appeal to the Chamber against the rejection of his proposals by the committee. The committee announced that they would only submit their proposals to the House for meeting the deficit after the estimates of expenditure and the taxation bills had been discussed. The next convocation of the Austro-Hungarian delegations is fixed for Aug. 25.

The trial of Herr Ofenheim is proceeding.

TURKEY.

Savet Pasha is appointed Minister for Foreign Affairs, vice Aarify Pasha, who becomes Minister of Public Instruction.

The Constantinople underground railway, from Galata to Pera, was opened on Sunday at noon.

There is reported to be apprehension that a sanguinary conflict between Turkey and Montenegro is imminent over the affair of the Podgoritzia riot.

AMERICA.

President Grant has sent a Message to Congress asking for additional revenue to provide for the Debt Sinking Fund—24,000,000 dols. annually—and also for the redemption of fractional currency and 80,000,000 dols. greenbacks by 1879, as the Finance Bill enacts. He recommends the restoration of the tea and coffee duties, also the restoration of the 10 per cent reduction recently made in the manufactured goods' tariff, and recommends bringing greenbacks gradually to par by a sliding scale, the redemption beginning on July 1, 1875, with gold at 10 per cent premium, and then gradually reducing it till par is reached in 1879.

In approving the bill for the resumption of specie payments, President Grant has suggested supplementary legislation to render its operation more effective. He proposes that, in redeeming the legal tender notes, the gold premium should be gradually reduced from 10 per cent in the first year by instalments of 2½ per cent in each succeeding year, till at the beginning of 1879 it would be extinguished.

President Grant has sent a Message to Congress urging the necessity of an improved armament for the coast defences.

Replying to a deputation of Congressmen from the Southern States, who asked for Government assistance to repair the damage done to the Mississippi levées by inundations, President Grant hinted that the continuance of violent acts in the South might cause Government and Congress to withhold aid. Military interference in election matters has not yet ceased, General Emory having sent troops to eject the Sheriff of Vicksburg from his office, on the ground that his election was illegal. Indignation meetings have been held at Boston and Baltimore respecting the military measures adopted in Louisiana, and the Congressional committee on the recent proceedings at New Orleans have reported that the Conservatives had a legally elected majority in the Legislature.

CANADA.

The elections for the Assembly of Ontario have resulted in the return of fifty Ministerialists, thirty-three candidates of the Opposition, and four independent members.

The Earl of Dufferin has commuted into two years' imprisonment the sentence passed upon Mr. Lepine, who, acting under Riel's orders, commanded the firing party that shot Mr. Scott.

The chairman of the Dominion Board of Trade has announced that the Committee of the United States Senate have reported against the Canadian Reciprocity Treaty.

INDIA.

A Calcutta despatch announces that the Duffla campaign is virtually ended, the chiefs having tendered their submission and restored the captives.

Baroda is reported to be tranquil. The British troops have been withdrawn from the city, and the Guicowar's troops are keeping the peace. The guns have been removed from the Residency. It is stated that the Chief Justice will probably preside at the Guicowar's trial. A telegram to the *Times* says that the Resident at Baroda assembled the leading men of the place on Thursday week and explained the situation, informing them that annexation was not intended. They are said to have expressed themselves as satisfied. A further telegram from the *Times*' correspondent at Calcutta says that the Baroda Commission will probably consist of Chief Justice Couch, Mr. Justice West, of Bombay, Sir Richard Meade, and Sir Dinkur Rao. The sittings will begin about the middle of February.

The Countess of Paris was, on Thursday morning, delivered of a son. Both are progressing favourably.

M. Omalius D'Halloy, an eminent Belgian geologist, who also took an active part in politics, died recently, in the ninety-second year of his age.

Intelligence has been received by the owners of the ship Clarence, which sailed from London on Sept. 27, with upwards of 300 emigrants on board, for Napier, New Zealand, to the effect that she had arrived safely at that port.

A rupture has taken place between the two Kings of Siam, and the second has taken refuge in the British Consulate. Vessels of war have been sent to Bangkok to protect British interests.

It is announced from Hong-Kong that the loan of the Chinese Government has been so successful that the applications for bonds have been nearly seven times in excess of the number offered to public subscription.

From the Gold Coast it was reported on the 29th ult. that some difficulty was expected to arise from the recent arrangements with regard to the employment of slaves, as the chiefs in the interior complained that their people were leaving them, and trade was suffering in consequence.

A Capetown telegram, dated the 26th ult., says:—"The Military Court of Inquiry held at Natal on the Langalibalele affair has returned to Capetown, but the result is not known; it is, however, rumoured that Langalibalele is to be released and relegated to his old location."

The central committee for the relief of the famine in Asia Minor begs the English and American press to draw the attention of their readers to the extreme want of further subscriptions. The £7000 received by the committee have been expended, and the distress is still augmenting. Several hundred thousand persons must be provided with clothing, food, and medical attendance until June next. Full reports of the proceedings of the committee are published in the *Levant Herald*.

Reaping had begun in South Australia when the last mail left. The average yield of wheat was expected to reach fourteen bushels per acre, which would leave about 200,000 tons for export, after providing for home consumption and seed.—Australian papers state that in the Riverina district grasshoppers, or locusts, have been very troublesome recently, not only destroying crops, but filling up wells and water-holes, and even consuming textile fabrics, such as blinds and window-curtains, in the houses.

The Khedive has determined upon the establishment of a Ministry of Commerce in Egypt upon the model of the English Board of Trade, and has expressed, through the Foreign Office, a wish to obtain the services of two officers of the Board of Trade competent to assist in organising the new department. The President of the Board of Trade has accordingly recommended Mr. H. Cholmondeley Pennell and Mr. E. A. R. Acton to assist the Egyptian Government in organising respectively the departments for internal and external commerce.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

With the disappearance of the frost and the publication of the entries for the spring handicaps "the winter of our discontent," if it did not exactly "become glorious summer," was, at any rate, partially forgotten, and we can wait patiently for the sound of the Lincoln saddling-bell. We append a comparative table of entries for the seven principal handicaps during the last eight years, for which we are indebted to the *Sportsman*:

	1868	1869	1870	1871	1872	1873	1874	1875
Lincolnshire Handicap	79	89	68	65	121	100	158	129
Grand National	107	109	88	111	85	129	93	86
City and Suburban	111	107	140	165	156	53	113	102
Great Metropolitan	94	47	85	74	76	48	45	50
Northamptonshire	95	80	81	51	49	61	37	55
Newmarket Handicap	69	60	69	81	57	109	50	51
Chester Cup	138	126	123	123	103	109	80	81

A reference to it shows a slight falling off in the aggregate since last year; but it must be remembered that the meetings over the grand new course at Esher, where added money has been lavished on some of the stakes, have doubtless drawn away a certain amount of patronage. No fault can be found with the class of horses entered for the different handicaps, all ages being well represented except the three-year-olds. We remark, however, that Camballo, for whose benefit the schoolmaster, Thunder, has just been purchased, is in the Lincolnshire Handicap; while the name of Roland Graeme is down for the Craven Stakes at Newmarket. In this race Lord Portsmouth's colt will have to meet Thunder at 21 lb., and ought to beat him with some pounds in hand, if he is worth supporting at 12 to 1 for the Derby. All the two-year-old races have filled exceedingly well, the newly-established Dewhurst Plate, for which we are indebted to the liberality of Mr. Gee, having obtained 103 subscribers, and it will add greatly to the attractions of the Houghton week. The Ascot Cup has closed with a truly royal entry of twenty-eight, including all the most famous stayers of the day, nor is the Alexandra Plate far behind it, so we may reasonably look forward to a very brilliant season in 1875.

The severance of the long-standing connection between Jennings and the French stable has naturally been a fruitful theme of conversation, but the exact reason for it has not transpired. Both Matthew and Joseph Dawson were obliged to decline to train for Count Lagrange, as the stalls at Heath House and Bedford Lodge are too full to admit of their doing so. The Count therefore engaged William Arnall as private trainer; and the horses in France will be under the care of Jennings's late head lad.

Coursing men are taking full advantage of the present open weather, and the meeting of the Altcarr Club last week introduced us to a very promising candidate for the Waterloo Cup. This is Mr. Pilkington's Palmer, by Countryman-Chivalry, who carried off the Members' Cup in splendid style, though he has recently been dead amidst with distemper. He possesses a high turn of speed, and, though a very big puppy, is remarkably clever with his game and a brilliant killer. Mr. Pilkington holds a nomination in the great event for the first time—indeed this is his first season of public coursing—but few of his elder brethren will find a better representative. At the South of England (Ashdown) Club meeting, this week, Mr. Morgan, the owner of Magnano, carried all before him, having one or more dogs left in at the finish of the three chief stakes; and there are more unlikely things than that he will repeat his notable triumph of last season. At present Mr. Hyslop is favourite; and Fugitive, said to be a much-improved dog, will represent him.

On Monday the twenty-five mile bicycle-race between the Hon. Ion Keith-Falconer and Mr. H. P. Whiting, which was postponed in consequence of an accident to the former, will take place at Lillie-bridge. Mr. Whiting has been amateur champion for some years past; and, as his opponent has a great reputation at Cambridge, they will probably accomplish very fast time.

The American billiard tournament, promoted by Messrs. Burroughes and Watts, and under the management of W. Cook, will commence on the same afternoon, and be continued each afternoon and evening for seven days. The principle is that each player meets every other player; and the handicap, which was made by the representatives of the press, is as follows:—W. Cook, champion, scratch; J. Roberts, jun., ex-champion, scratch; J. Bennett, ex-champion, scratch; T. Taylor, 100 points; S. W. Stanley, 120; W. Timbrell, 140; A. Bennett, champion of the Midlands, 160; L. Kilkenny, champion of Yorkshire, 160. The handicap will be played at Joseph Bennett's rooms, 315, Oxford-street.

THE QUARTERLIES.

The *Quarterly Review* has two articles destined to attract unusual attention. The discussion of that on the Pope, attributed to the pen of the late Premier, is rather suited to our political columns. We may say, however, that, if really Mr. Gladstone's, it will be received by the majority of his countrymen with great satisfaction, less for its intrinsic merits than for the assurance it conveys of the irreconcilable nature of his breach with Rome. It is also valuable for its indirect testimony to the tendency of Rome's recent extravagances to alienate those originally well-disposed towards her; and, if the authorship is correctly assigned, memorable for that unique phenomenon, a Gladstonian joke. The object of the late Premier's wit is the Republic of Ecuador. The other sensational article, that on the Greville Memoirs, is a stupendous joke all through if the authorship be correctly attributed to the gentleman who revived a forgotten scandal about Mr. Stuart Mill before he was cold in his grave, and who, if we can believe it, now comes forward as the vindicator of public morality against an entertaining book which has delighted everybody and injured nobody. The essay is humorous in no other sense; it is a piece of dull, tedious spite, impressing us as the work of some veteran dîner-out annoyed at his stories having become *publici juris*. The paper on the doctrines of the Jesuits is full of learning and research, and effectually revives the indictment of Pascal. That on the Judicature Bill is obviously the production of a high authority; another on the Inns of Court is an ex parte plea for professional interests. The reviewer of Dr. Farrar's "Life of Christ" warmly commends the author's eloquence and research, but evidently thinks that his book is one for the million rather than for any select body of readers.

The contents of the *British Quarterly* are of a remarkably solid character. Two articles may be singled out for especial praise—the very learned and suggestive one on the early Christian inscriptions of France, and the exposition of Mr. Cox's bold, possibly rash, innovations on the current views of Grecian history.

In the *New Quarterly* we may signalise Mrs. Linton's powerful novelette "The Mad Willoughbys," Mr. G. B. Smith's thoughtful essay on Nathaniel Hawthorne, and the valuable appendix to Mr. Latouche's travels in Portugal.

On Wednesday a severe storm raged in various parts of the country, and many cases of damage are reported.

The Extra Supplement.

CHILDREN LEAVING SCHOOL.

The life and truth of characteristic expression in Vautier's pictures of German rustic popular life must be acknowledged by the least observant eye. How good an example of those qualities is presented by the interesting scene of common and daily occurrence, represented in the work before us! There stands the demure schoolmaster, a candidate for clerical ordination, clad in the broad-brimmed hat and long-sleeved robe of his parochial office. He has just dismissed the impatient urchins with a brief religious service, which has appeared to them intolerably long. They walk past him quietly, bare-headed and soft-footed, at the door of the school-house; but at the bottom of the steps their pent-up spirits begin to find vent in eager talk and active gestures. Two of the boys are disputing; a third stoops for a double handful of snow, which he will mould into a sportive missile. Another, some few steps in advance, has a snowball ready to let fly at any living mark. But we perceive that more than one seems to feel the cold, while others have been furnished, by careful mothers at home, with huge capes and other wrappings, or even with an immense umbrella, to shield them against the rage of wintry weather. It is to be hoped that, in less than five minutes, they will all be joining heartily in play, of such a robust and vehement sort as to warm their little bodies, and to set each youthful mind quite free from the burden of their school lessons. We engrave this picture by permission of the Berlin Photographic Company.

HOTEL LIFE IN AMERICA.

Almost every European traveller in America has some remark to make upon the habit of many resident families living as boarders in the great hotels of New York and other large cities. It is, of course, not to be supposed that this practice has become anything like the general mode of living for people of any class; but it is so frequent as to attract notice and comment. Instead of quoting, however, the observations of any "Britisher," we shall here cite the newly-published second edition (Longmans and Co.) of "Forty Years of American Life," by Dr. T. L. Nichols, M.D., now of Malvern, but a native of New Hampshire. His book was first published ten years ago, when he had come to England because he did not like the American Civil War. He remarks that the American is not so shy and exclusive as "the Englishman;" by which latter designation, we suppose, he means the "Britisher;" for we had reckoned the Americans to be not less English than we are ourselves. The Englishman of Old England, however, or the Old Englishman, "likes to eat and drink in private, shut up in his own room, or in a close little box." He builds a high wall round his house and garden to shut out the public gaze. The American, on the contrary, "wishes to see and to be seen; he enjoys society, and enters into the life around him. The more the merrier; the larger the hotel, the bigger the steam-boat, the more people about him, the greater is his enjoyment. He prefers, therefore, a large, gay dining-room, and the presence of many guests." We have not a word to say in disparagement of his taste.

"There are many grand hotels," as Dr. Nichols proceeds to observe, "in France and England; but they are an American invention. An American hotel covers a square furlong. It is built of granite, brown sandstone, or white marble, seven stories high. It has bed-rooms for 1000 or 1200 guests, and dining-rooms, drawing-rooms, reading-room, public parlours, bar-room, barber's shop, baths, everything on the same scale. There is a kitchen capable of furnishing four meals a day for 1000 people. There is a steam laundry, in which your stock of soiled linen will be washed, dried, starched, ironed, and returned to your room in two hours. There is a corps of Irish chambermaids, to scrub, clean, and do up a mile or two of corridors and a thousand bed-chambers; and a corps of table-waiters, Irish or negroes, who manage, with more or less dexterity, to feed a thousand guests.

"Breakfast is from seven to eleven. You take your seat and morning paper. The waiter hands you the bill of fare. Coffee, tea, chocolate; all kinds of bread, toast, rolls, and biscuit; buckwheat, Indian corn, rice or flour griddle-cakes; beefsteak, pork-steak, mutton-chop, ham, eggs, sausages, fish, broiled chicken, oysters, steamed, fried, or broiled. It is all the same price; you may eat of every dish, or one, or none. You pay six, eight, or ten shillings a day, according to the class of the house, for rooms, meals and service. (These were the prices before the war.)

"There are, in the large cities, two dinners a day; one for business men, or persons leaving in early trains, at two o'clock; the other at five or six o'clock, for a more fashionable class of travellers and the regular boarders at the hotel. They are substantially the same; but the first, being for men in a hurry, is less ceremonious. At Niagara the waiters have military drill, and a band of music plays in an adjoining saloon. At Saratoga the music comes after dinner. The carte, or bill of fare, is long and full; and I must say, the dinner is generally well cooked. No markets in the world are better supplied than those of the large American cities. I know that Englishmen have a superstition about the excellence of their beef and mutton. But there are the same breeds of cattle and sheep in America, and the same mode of feeding. The game is not to be surpassed. As for the cooking, every great American hotel has its *chef de cuisine*, usually a Frenchman.

"The keepers of American hotels, who not unfrequently become senators, take pride in entertaining their guests. They sit at the head of the table, and invite the President, the Governor of the State, or distinguished foreigners, to take wine with them. They have the manners, not of a head waiter, but of a gentleman of fortune dispensing the hospitalities of his mansion. The hotel-keeper pays a rent of £5000 or £10,000 a year. He has an income of £20,000 a year, keeps his carriage, has his box at the opera, and his country villa. He could retire with a fortune, but he likes his basinity. Is it credible that such a man, in spite of what Mr. Anthony Trollope says, would not have a good cook?

"There is tea at six or seven, and a substantial supper, for those who require one, at eleven o'clock. Now for the expense. Lodging, attendance, and four meals a day cost, as I have said, from six to ten shillings, according to the class of hotel. The usual price formerly was eight shillings a day. Wines and malt liquors are extra; the price-list is on the bill of fare. But there are no fees for waiters, chambermaids, or any service but boots and porter, commonly the same personage. The laundry-work of course is extra. The barber's shop, though in the house, is an independent affair. There is no doubt about the bill; you know to a shilling what it will be for a day or ten days. And that, to one who has had a few of the surprises with which English innkeepers indulge their customers, is certainly a comfort."

Such is Dr. Nichols's account of this mode of living at the great American hotels. Our Illustration shows the hotel company on Sunday evening assembled in their common drawing-room.



AMERICAN SKETCHES: HOTEL LIFE—SUNDAY EVENING.



"YOUNG RUBENS SURPRISED BY HIS MASTER, VAN OORT."—FROM THE PICTURE BY STEVEN.
BY PERMISSION OF THE BERLIN PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPANY.

YOUNG RUBENS.

The prince of Flemish painters, born in 1577, was, in his boyhood, first a pupil of Tobias Verhaeght, the landscape-artist, and, next, of Adam van Oort, a famous colourist. His genius was not appreciated by either of these masters, until, as the story goes, he one day chanced to be found by Van Oort, in the seclusion of his garret-chamber, painting a female figure, saint or nun, with uncommon force of conception and delineation. This is the incident which has been treated by M. Steven, in the picture engraved from one of the Berlin Photographic Company's publications. Young Peter Paul Rubens afterwards studied his art under Otho van Veen, or Venius, Court painter at Antwerp to the Infanta Isabella and Philip II, of the Spanish-Austrian Royal and Imperial house. These august personages sent him to Mantua, Venice, and Rome, where he became familiar with the principles of Italian art. He settled at home in Antwerp in 1609, still in the enjoyment of Court favour, and became a very prosperous man. It is not to be forgotten that he was a diplomatist as well as an artist, and that he visited Paris, Madrid, and London as ambassador to foreign Sovereigns. It was here, at the request of our Charles I., that he painted his allegory of Peace and War and designed the ceiling in Whitehall Palace. His death, in 1640, was the termination of a most successful career.

THE CHURCH.

The annual meeting of Evangelical clergy at Islington began on Tuesday, under the presidency of the Rev. D. Wilson.

The Archbishop of Canterbury preached, on Thursday week, at the re-dedication of a church which has been restored at Faversham, under the superintendence of Sir Gilbert Scott.

The London Diocesan Home Mission has received from a gentleman deeply interested in Church work among the poor of London £200 for this year, accompanied with the expression of a hope of continuing the same for two further years.

Dean Stanley preached on Sunday morning on the occasion of the reopening of St. Mary's Church, Bryanstone-square, which had been closed for some time while undergoing renovation and embellishment.

A great gathering of churchmen was held on Monday, at Birmingham, under the presidency of the Earl of Dartmouth, to concert measures for consolidating the movement for church defence in the midland counties.

An address deplored any fresh legislation whereby authoritative sanction might be given to the use of the eastward position or a distinct eucharistic dress has been presented to the Archbishops and Bishops. It was signed by 5300 clergymen.

The Bishop of Gloucester, in his annual address to his clergy, just published, says that a bill for increasing the Episcopate and proposals for rubrical revision will certainly be introduced into Parliament next Session. He does not think that the threatened active promotion of disestablishment by the Ritualists will produce the slightest political effect.

The Lord Chancellor presided on Monday at a meeting of the Church Missionary Society, held at Bournemouth. In the course of his address his Lordship observed that meetings such as that were the means of manifesting and transmitting to those engaged in missionary work abroad the interest felt by those at home in their labours. Among Christians the support of missions was not a matter of option, but positive duty.

In obedience to a circular from the Archbishop of Canterbury, a large proportion of the bench of Bishops assembled, on Tuesday morning, at Lambeth Palace, where they were cordially greeted by the Primate, after which the Bishops partook of the Communion in the chapel. The company then met in the Guard-Room. The Archbishop having congratulated those present on their goodly numbers, an animated and prolonged debate took place on several matters in connection with recent ecclesiastical legislation.

The usual monthly meeting of the Incorporated Society for Promoting the Enlargement of Churches was held on Monday, at the society's house, 7, Whitehall—the Bishop of Lichfield in the chair. Grants of money were made in aid of the following objects, viz.:—Building new churches at Charles, St. Jude, in the parish of Plymouth, Devonshire; Ferndale, in the parish of Ystrad-y-fodwg, Glamorganshire; and Middlestown, in the parish of Thornhill, York. Enlarging or otherwise increasing the accommodation in the churches at Berriew, Montgomeryshire; Idon, near Rye, Sussex; Llansannan, near Rhyl, Denbighshire; Northover, near Taunton, Somersetshire; Peterborough St. Mary; and Spridlington, near Market Rasen, Lincolnshire. Under urgent circumstances, the grant formerly made towards building the Church of St. Mary, Brookfield, in the parish of St. Ann, Highgate, was increased. A grant was also made from the Special School-Church and Mission-House Fund towards building a mission church at Troedrhiwfauch, Pontllofyn, Glamorganshire.

THE UNIVERSITIES AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

CAMBRIDGE.

The moderators and examiners for the mathematical tripos have issued the list of those approved for mathematical honours. Of the ninety-five candidates, eighty-eight have been approved, including two "agrotant." Two have been "gulphed"—that is, allowed an ordinary degree; two have acquitted themselves so as to be excused the general examination for the ordinary degree, and three candidates have failed entirely. The final list, arranged in order of merit, will be published in the Senate House on Friday, Jan. 29.

A sum of £10,000 has been given by Government to be equally divided between Edinburgh and St. Andrew's Universities for the institution of chairs of education; and this is supplementary to an equal sum given by Dr. Bell, £6000 of which goes to Edinburgh and £4000 to St. Andrew's.

Eton College reopened on Wednesday with the return of the lower boys. On Thursday the fifth form arrived, and on Friday the sixth form followed, completing the reassembling of the students at Eton.

A gentleman, whose name is unknown, has made a gift of £10,000 for the promotion of University education among the working classes of Nottingham.

The scholarships and prizes won in the competitive examinations promoted by the Liverpool Council of Education were distributed, last Saturday, by the Bishop of Manchester, who said he had been reluctantly driven to the conclusion that compulsory education was necessary. He did not regard the present system as satisfactory; the schools turned out neither intelligent Christians nor intelligent citizens; nor was there so much thoughtful teaching as was the case a quarter of a century ago. As to the work of the Church, his Lordship held that the clergy should spend less time in writing to the newspapers, and devote themselves more actively to promoting the cause of religious instruction amongst the people.

Mr. William Norrie, M.A., one of the classical masters in the Edinburgh Collegiate School, has been appointed to the rectorship of the High School, Dunedin, Otago.

POLITICAL AND SOCIAL TOPICS.

MR. GLADSTONE'S RETIREMENT.

The following correspondence between Mr. Gladstone and Earl Granville has been published, showing that Mr. Gladstone has resolved to resign the leadership of the Liberal party:

11, Carlton House-terrace, S.W., Jan. 13.

My dear Granville,—The time has, I think, arrived when I ought to revert to the subject of the letter which I addressed to you on March 12. Before determining whether I should offer to assume a charge which might extend over a length of time, I have reviewed, with all the care in my power, a number of considerations both public and private, of which a portion, and these not by any means insignificant, were not in existence at the date of that letter. The result has been that I see no public advantage in my continuing to act as the leader of the Liberal party; and that, at the age of sixty-five, and after forty-two years of a laborious public life, I think myself entitled to retire on the present opportunity. This retirement is dictated to me by my personal views as to the best method of spending the closing years of my life. I need hardly say that my conduct in Parliament will continue to be governed by the principles on which I have heretofore acted; and, whatever arrangements may be made for the treatment of general business and for the advantage or convenience of the Liberal party, they will have my cordial support. I should, perhaps, add that I am at present, and mean for a short time to be, engaged on a special matter which occupies me closely.—Always sincerely yours, W. E. GLADSTONE.

Carlton House-terrace, Jan. 14.

My dear Gladstone,—I have received your letter of the 13th. I have communicated to you in detail the reasons which make me profoundly regret and deprecate the conclusion at which you have arrived. Your late colleagues share these feelings to the fullest extent, and have regretted the failure of their endeavour to persuade you to come to a different decision. We have no doubt that the Liberal party in and out of Parliament will feel as we do on the subject. The observations we have addressed to you are prompted by considerations of public advantage for the future, not merely by our sense of your great services, and our sentiments of personal admiration and attachment.—Yours sincerely, GRANVILLE.

The *Hour* says that, Mr. Gladstone having communicated to her Majesty his intention to resign the leadership of the Liberal party, the Queen expressed her deep regret, and offered—not for the first time—to confer a mark of her Royal favour on Mrs. Gladstone, as she had done on the late Mrs. Disraeli, who, some years ago, was created Viscountess Beaconsfield.

The following circular has been issued by Mr. Disraeli to his supporters:—"Sir,—The meeting of Parliament has been fixed for Friday, Feb. 5, when the House of Commons will immediately proceed to the consideration of business of importance. I therefore take the liberty of requesting your presence on that occasion."

The Address in answer to the Speech from the Throne on the occasion of the opening of Parliament will be moved, in the House of Commons, by the Hon. Edward Stanhope, member for Mid-Lincolnshire, and seconded by Mr. Whitelaw, member for the city of Glasgow.

Mr. W. E. Forster, M.P., spoke, on Monday night, at a soirée of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce. In doing so, he advised Englishmen to support the Philadelphia Exhibition, to be held next year, and expressed a hope that the Government would oppose the levy of differential duties by Canada in favour of the United States as against England. After alluding to the question of appointing a Minister of Commerce, Mr. Forster went on to speak of the withdrawal of Mr. Gladstone from the leadership of the Liberal party, and paid a high tribute to the purity, the self-sacrifice, and the disinterestedness which had characterised the public life of that distinguished statesman.

Mr. Charles Mark Palmer, M.P. for North Durham, was present, last Saturday night, at the annual dinner of the Sunderland Chamber of Agriculture, and, in responding to the toast of "The county members," alluded to the retirement of Mr. Gladstone, which, he said, was the greatest blow that could fall upon the Liberal party at the present time, when it so manifestly lacked united action. His place, he thought, would be difficult to fill, though the choice of the party he had no doubt would fall upon the Marquis of Hartington, who had not offended either section of the Liberals by any crotchets of his own. Sir William Harcourt had been mentioned; but the views of that gentleman he was sure would not meet with approval. Mr. Palmer spoke at some length on the question of tenant right as one particularly affecting the Chamber, and expressed an opinion in favour of full compensation being given to tenants for improvements. He hoped the subject would be included in the programme of legislation next Session.

Mr. G. O. Trevelyan, on Thursday week, addressed a meeting of his constituents at Selkirk, commenting chiefly on the announcement of Mr. Gladstone's retirement from the leadership of the Liberal party. After warmly eulogising the right hon. gentleman and his public services, Mr. Trevelyan confessed that he did not know by what process a successor to him was to be selected.

Mr. Mundella, M.P., speaking at a meeting at Sheffield, on Monday night, on the subject of the extension of University education, said that the great recommendation of the scheme was its extreme practicability. It was calculated to do good to persons of all classes who might choose to go through the course of lectures. It had been particularly advantageous to ladies at Nottingham and other towns where it had been in operation; and it bade fair, in fact, to realise Mr. Forster's hope that we might have a ladder from the gutter to the University.

Lord Aberdare presided at the inauguration of a working men's institute at Swansea, on Monday evening, and, in speaking of the great strike in South Wales, said he would set aside the question whether the price of coal had fallen, and proceeded to show that, if the price of coal remained unaltered, and the state of the ironworks was such that a large number of colliers could not find employment, the masters were perfectly justified in availing themselves of the circumstances—the same as the men were justified in asking for higher wages when there was a demand for coal in excess of the labour. He knew that since the month of September the price of coal, instead of remaining stationary, had fallen more than 100 per cent. He advocated men resisting when they were being treated unjustly, but he would like to see the masters take the pains to show them—as he believed they could—that they were justified in enforcing the reduction, and then he was sure the resumption of work would take place in less than a fortnight.

Mr. T. Brassey, M.P., gave a lecture on Monday evening, at the Mechanics' Institute, Hastings, on "Recent Experiences Afloat," embracing a visit to the shore of Norway and a cruise in the Mediterranean. From his experience Mr. Brassey deduced the opinion that a great deal of the difficulty complained of in manning merchant-vessels was attributable to the engagement of men at a few hours' notice for voyages of two or three years. No vessel should exceed in length five times and a half its beam measurement. There was not, he believed, so much fault to be found with the mode of construction adopted in the merchant navy as with the reprehensible practice, now disappearing, of overloading vessels. In con-

trast to this evil practice, he might mention he had last year made a voyage of 13,000 miles without seeing a bucketful of salt water on deck.

The Manchester City Council, on Monday, resolved to present an address of welcome to the Lord Chief Justice on his visit to that city on Friday. The Mayor, in moving its adoption, spoke of the able and dignified part which the Lord Chief Justice took at Geneva as arbitrator for England, and of the ability, forbearance, and judgment with which his Lordship presided over a recent trial of unprecedented length and intricacy. In his opinion the impartiality of the Judicial Bench was never more fully vindicated than in that case.

Admiral Elliot has issued an address resigning his seat for the borough of Chatham, in consequence of his appointment to succeed Admiral Sir Rodney Mundy as Commander-in-Chief at Portsmouth. Mr. J. G. Gorst, the Conservative, and Mr. W. H. Stone, the Liberal candidate for the vacancy have both announced their views to the electors.

Alderman Sir James Lawrence and Alderman M'Arthur, the members for Lambeth, were present, on Tuesday night, at the annual dinner of the Lambeth Liberal Association, and spoke on the political topics of the day.

The members for Plymouth addressed over 3000 of their constituents, on Tuesday evening, in the new Guildhall. Mr. Bates reviewed the events of the past Session; and Mr. Sampson Lloyd specified certain amendments required in the working of the Education Act, declared himself against disestablishment, conceded that the extension of the county franchise to householders was a just and equitable measure, and agreed with his colleague that the income tax ought to cease.

Mr. Raikes, the Conservative member for Chester, in addressing a large and enthusiastic audience of his constituents, on Tuesday, said that during the last seven years he had persistently stated, and he now reiterated it, that the Liberal party died with Lord Palmerston in 1865. Since then it required all the genius and electrical temperament of one distinguished man to galvanise that dead body into a semblance of life and to keep it moving. It was now completely disintegrated, and was without even its leader.

Sir George Bowyer, M.P., in presiding at the fourth annual meeting of the League of St. Sebastian, which was held at Willis's Rooms on Wednesday, strongly condemned the course which had been taken by Mr. Gladstone in "exciting the feelings of the people of England against their Catholic fellow-subjects."

Mr. L. A. Majendie, M.P., addressed a meeting of his constituents at Canterbury on Wednesday. Advertising to the religious, political, and military questions of the day, he expressed an opinion that the growth of Continental armaments would impose increased expenditure upon this country, and hoped that the Conservative Government would not be blamed for such a temporary additional burden.

Dr. Cameron, M.P., in addressing his constituents at Glasgow, on Wednesday evening, expressed the opinion that the retirement of Mr. Gladstone from the leadership of the Liberal party could not have occurred at a more opportune time than the present. He thought Mr. Forster the best man to act as the right hon. gentleman's successor.

A conference of the united Nonconformist committees was held at Crewe, on Wednesday, at which resolutions were passed recognising the services of Mr. Gladstone as leader of the Liberal party, and expressing an opinion that the alienation of the Nonconformists would be increased should any leader be selected who was publicly pledged to pursue the educational policy which was regarded with irreconcilable hostility by the great mass of their co-religionists.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

We learn from the *City Press* that Mr. Barnet Hime, the oldest member of the Jewish community in London, died recently in his 101st year.

The receptions of the Lady Mayoress will begin on Tuesday next, the 26th inst., from three to five o'clock, and will be continued every Tuesday until further notice.

Professor Rolleston, F.R.S., gave, at the London Institution, on Thursday week, the first of two lectures on "The Early Inhabitants of England."

On Monday the new line of the Great Northern Railway between Finsbury Park and Canonbury, in connection with the North London system to Broad-street, was opened for passenger traffic.

Captain Tyler, R.E., on Tuesday, inspected the extension of the Metropolitan Railway from Moorgate-street to Liverpool-street, and the junction line with the Great Eastern Railway, and expressed his approval of the works.

The oration this year in honour of John Hunter, the anatomist, will be delivered at the Royal College of Surgeons, on Saturday, Feb. 13, by Dr. F. Le Gros Clark, president of the college, and consulting surgeon to St. Thomas's Hospital.

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress entertained the members of the Court of Aldermen, the Sheriffs and Under-Sheriffs, the principal officers of the Corporation, and a select company at dinner on Tuesday. The guests numbered sixty.

Sir Charles Reed, yesterday week, opened a new school at Lewisham, making the eighty-third school erected by the London School Board. The building will accommodate 525 children in three departments—namely, 235 boys, 108 girls, and 182 infants.

We are glad to announce that the efflorescence which obscured Macle's picture, "The Meeting of Wellington and Blucher After Waterloo," in the Westminster Palace, has been removed, without injury to the picture, under the direction of Mr. Richmond, R.A.

On Tuesday the official inquiry ordered by the Board of Trade into the loss of the *La Plata* was opened at the Greenwich Police Court. Mr. Hamel, the legal adviser of the Board, sketched the history of the ship and the circumstances under which she was lost.

The anniversary festival of the Caledonian Society of London will be held at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, on Monday next, in commemoration of the birthday of Burns. The president of the society, Mr. E. J. M'Intyre, Q.C., will occupy the chair.

The fund set on foot by a meeting at the Mansion House, in December last, towards the movement for training ships on the Thames, now amounts to nearly £2000, including £1000 voted by the London School Board for one hundred nominations for ten years. A further sum of £2000 is still required.

The Rev. W. Roberts, B.A., having completed twenty-five years' ministry at Horbury Chapel, Notting-hill, his congregation invited him to a tea-meeting yesterday week, when his friends presented him with a cheque for £1400 and a gold watch, in testimony of their appreciation of his ministerial services and of high regard for his private character.

St. Stephen's Club-House, at the corner of Bridge-street and the Thames Embankment, which has been erected by a number of members of Parliament and others, was opened to the members on Monday forenoon. The building, which is designed to accommodate 1500 members, has been erected at a cost of £120,000. There was no formal ceremony.

Lord Henry Lennox, First Commissioner of Works, on Monday received a deputation who waited upon him to urge the abolition of tolls on Hampton-Court Bridge. His Lordship, in reply, admitted that a very strong case had been made out, and said he would be happy to do something to remedy the grievance laid before him.

The annual ball in aid of the Licensed Victuallers' School will take place at St. James's Hall on Thursday next, the 28th inst. During a long series of years this ball has been one of the most popular events of the London winter season, and the arrangements announced for the ensuing one promise that this reputation will be well maintained.

The Lord Mayor, Mr. Sheriff Ellis, and Mr. Sheriff Shaw have accepted the invitation of the committee of the French Hospital, in Lime-street, to be present at the annual banquet in aid of their funds, which will take place, next Saturday, the 30th inst., at Willis's Rooms, under the presidency of his Excellency the French Ambassador.

A public meeting of the members of the London and South-Western Railway Institute was held, on Monday evening, for the purpose of witnessing the distribution of the prizes and certificates to the students of the Southwark, Vauxhall, and other science classes, conducted by Mr. Parton Parry. The chair was taken by Lord Brabazon.

The weekly return of metropolitan pauperism shows that the total number of paupers last week was 99,916, of whom 37,033 were in workhouses and 62,883 received outdoor relief. Compared with the corresponding week last year, these figures show a decrease of 6992. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 438, of whom 295 were men, 110 women, and 33 children under sixteen.

The monthly report of Major Frank Bolton, the water examiner to the London companies, states that the corporations which are giving a constant supply, under the provisions of the Act of 1871, are the Kent and East London. There are now 666½ miles of street containing mains constantly charged. Attention is called to a clause in the Board of Trade regulations prohibiting waste pipes being carried down into the drains, instead of having the end exposed to the air.

At a meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works yesterday week, memorials respecting the proposed opening of a thoroughfare from Oxford-street to Leicester-square and the contemplated erection of a hospital for contagious diseases were discussed, and it was resolved in both instances that the subjects in question were not matters for action by the board. A motion to inquire respecting the coal supply of the metropolis was also rejected by a majority.

The Fishmongers' Company have made a grant of 100 gs. to the funds of the Chichester and Arethusa training-ships for homeless and destitute boys; the Grocers' Company have granted £100 to the funds of the National Refugees for Homeless and Destitute Children, 8, Great Queen-street, Holborn; Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, Tritton, and Co. have given £100 to the Metropolitan Visiting and Relief Association, which has its offices at 21, Regent-street; and the Poplar Hospital for Accidents acknowledges the receipt of £100 from the Goldsmiths' Company and £5 5s. from the Joiners' Company.

A letter from Archbishop Manning was read on Sunday morning in all the Roman Catholic churches of his diocese, in which he informed his flock that on his leaving Rome the Holy Father gave him his apostolical benediction and a plenary indulgence to be imparted to them on the usual conditions. The Archbishop has therefore fixed the time for gaining the indulgence the week beginning with Monday next, the Feast of St. Peter's Chair, to the following Sunday inclusive. The pontifical blessing will be given at the high mass at the pro-cathedral to-morrow, Sunday, the 24th.

Captain Shaw, chief officer of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade, read a paper, on Tuesday evening, at a meeting of the Society of Arts, on "Certain Appliances for enabling Persons to Breathe in Dense Smoke or Poisonous Vapours." The principal apparatus was the new air-tight smoke-cap, fitted with an air-filter which Professor Tyndall had invented and placed at the disposal of the brigade without any fee or reward. By a combination of cotton-wool, glycerine, charcoal, and lime in layers, through which the air is breathed, a man is enabled to work for as long as half an hour in an atmosphere charged with smoke or noxious gases, in which otherwise he could not exist for one minute. Professor Tyndall made an interesting statement as to the various steps by which he had been led up to this invention.

At the weekly meeting of the School Board, held on Wednesday last—Sir Charles Reed presiding—Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P., before taking his seat, thanked the board for the resolution they had passed approving the cause of his absence for six months, thereby enabling him to continue to be a member, and hoped that he should be better able in future to attend to the business of the board. The chairman intimated that the board had great pleasure in having Mr. Morley once more among them. The question of small scholarships was incidentally introduced, and the great City companies and others who have means were urged to follow the example of the Skimmers' Company, which promised a scholarship next June. After another long debate, the question of school fees was disposed of without any definite expression of opinion by the board, the previous question having been carried.

The annual meeting of the governors of the Royal National Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest, Ventnor, Isle of Wight, was held on Monday. The report showed that great and satisfactory progress had been made during the past year. Among the special acts of munificence recorded were the gifts of two memorial houses, one by Baroness Meyer-de Rothschild and the other by the Earl of Strafford. Although the sixteen houses of which the main portion of the hospital is to consist have now either been built or are in course of erection, it is found that two further blocks of subsidiary hospitals are urgently needed. Mrs. Hamilton has contributed £1500 for the erection of one of these houses. The central hall, so much needed for the instruction and amusement of the patients, will shortly be begun. Mr. Sampson Copestake was elected treasurer, in the room of the late Mr. F. H. Leaf.

The Lord Chamberlain's recent edict against the indecencies tolerated on the stages of certain theatres has had a beneficial effect, we are glad to say. The can-can has vanished. It is with pleasure we also note that at one of the prettiest theatres in London, the Opéra Comique, where Ristori gave some of her grandest impersonations not long ago, the nude school of burlesque has been displaced by the legitimate and pure drama. "Ixion Rewheeled" has been banished from the Opéra Comique by Mr. John Hollingshead, who has produced "The

Lady of Lyons," with Mr. and Mrs. Kendal in the leading parts, and with Mr. Ryder and Mrs. Buckingham White in the cast. Mrs. Kendal (whose Pauline is one of her most graceful and charming assumptions) also appears, with her husband, at the Gaiety matinée to-day (Saturday), as Miss Hardcastle in "She Stoops to Conquer."

A Congregational Hall, commemorative of the ejection of the two thousand nonconforming ministers from their benefices in 1662, has been erected in Farringdon-street. The ground floor consists of offices, the flat above of a library capable of containing 8000 volumes and 400 persons; on the top flat is the hall for public meetings, which will hold 1000 people. Meetings were held on Tuesday to celebrate its opening. In the morning Mr. J. Remington Mills presided, and speeches were made by Mr. S. Morley, M.P., the Rev. Dr. Parker, Mr. E. Baines, and others; and in the evening Mr. H. Lee, of Manchester, took the chair, and addresses were delivered by the Rev. J. Baldwin Brown, the Rev. J. G. Rogers, and Mr. H. Richard, M.P. About £62,000 had been given towards the building fund, and during the proceedings further subscriptions were announced. On Wednesday evening there was a conversazione, which was well attended by representatives of Evangelical Nonconformists of all denominations. This was followed by a public meeting, at which Mr. Morley, M.P., presided, and Sir Charles Reed, the Rev. Dr. Punshon, the Rev. Dr. Angus, the Rev. Dr. Fraser, the Rev. H. Wilson, and the Rev. Alexander Thomson were amongst the speakers.

The annual meeting of the Royal Humane Society was held last week, at the offices, under the presidency of Mr. W. Hawes. From the report, which was read, it transpired that 212,000 people had been on the ice under the care of the society's icemen, and 372 accidents had occurred more or less of a serious nature; 162,000 bathers had visited the Serpentine during the year, the accidents amongst them being only two. The society's men had, as usual, saved several intending suicides. Seven silver medals had been awarded during the year for gallant saving of life, and the Stanhope gold medal was on Tuesday adjudged to Lieutenant James de Hoghton, as the most gallant. This officer, who was invalided from Ashantee, was, on Sept. 10, on board the yacht Dart, off Lowestoft, when James Dorling, a mariner, fell overboard. The night was very dark, and it rained and blew. Lieutenant Hoghton jumped overboard and swam to the man and supported him in the water for a quarter of an hour in the tideway, between narrow high pile works without chains or anything to lay hold of. The report was adopted, and a resolution was agreed to authorising the secretary to ask the Office of Works that protection be afforded to the society's apparatus at night, as a case had occurred in which some of it had been damaged. The balance-sheet showed that the receipts for the year had been £2206 15s. 9d., and the expenditure had exhausted nearly all this, a balance of £447 19s. 7d. being carried forward.—At a meeting of the society, held on Tuesday, a long list of cases of saving life in various parts of the world were investigated, and rewards conferred.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS IN LONDON.

YEARLY RETURN.

The births of 121,394 children were registered in London during the fifty-two weeks ending Saturday, Jan. 2. This total shows an excess of 3071 over the fifty-two weekly returns made in 1873, and it exceeds the total for 1864 by 19,207, so rapidly do the births increase. The births in London in 1874 exceeded the registered deaths by 43,788; and this number, of course, represents the natural growth of the population of the metropolis in a year, immigration and emigration being disregarded. It thus appears that 333 children were born in London daily, nearly 14 in every hour, or 1 under every five minutes. The deaths of 76,606 persons were returned as having been registered within the metropolitan area during the fifty-two weeks ending Jan. 2. The annual rate of mortality for the past year was, therefore, 22·6, which nearly coincides with that of 1873, when the rate stood at 22·5. In the year 1872 a lower rate prevailed—namely, 21·5 per 1000 inhabitants; but, with the exception of 1872 and 1873, it is necessary to travel as far back as 1860 to find as good a death-rate as that presented for 1874, the rate for 1860 having been 22·5. The mean death-rate for the thirty-four years 1810-73 stands at 24·3. The Registrar-General points out in his report for 1873 that the London dealt with for registration purposes includes 78,080 acres, and the population resides at a mean elevation of 39 ft. above Trinity high-water mark, varying from 11 ft. below high-water mark in Plumstead marshes to 429 ft. above high-water mark in Hampstead. The number of inhabited houses was 417,767 in 1871, and the rateable value was then assessed at a trifle under twenty millions sterling.

WEEKLY RETURN.

The Registrar-General announces that his weekly return will "contain information relating to the births and deaths registered in London and twenty other large cities and towns in the United Kingdom, having an aggregate population, estimated to the middle of the year, of 7,739,490 persons; and, in addition, will also be found similar facts relating to an 'outer ring' of parishes situated around the registration division of London, of which the estimated population, at the same period, is 762,007. The population of the entire area within the United Kingdom embraced by the weekly return as enlarged will therefore be 8,501,497, or eight millions and a half." The "outer ring" of metropolitan parishes, the Registrar-General says, extends round a circle with a radius of about fifteen miles from Charing-cross—it is the Greater London. The Greater London was first defined by Sir Robert Peel's Metropolitan Police Act, and may be accepted as the London of the future. The area is 698 square miles—nearly five times the area over which the weekly tables have hitherto extended; and the population may be estimated at 4,207,167, of which 762,007 live in the outer ring. It has been determined to keep up the weekly table, including the amplest details of age and cause of death, within their ancient limits; in the first place for the sake of comparison, and in the second place because the population is all compact.

The influence of the recent mild weather is shown in the diminution of the death-rate reported in the Registrar-General's return for last week. In London 2481 births and 1911 deaths were registered. The births exceeded by 45, and the deaths by 191, the estimated numbers. The annual death-rate from all causes, which in the six preceding weeks had averaged 32 per 1000, declined, under the influence of the higher temperature, to 29. The deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs, which had averaged 746 in the three previous weeks, declined last week to 631, showing, however, an excess of 194 upon the corrected average weekly number; 405 resulted from bronchitis, 141 from pneumonia, and 27 from asthma. There were 5 deaths from smallpox, 12 from measles, 59 from scarlet fever, 14 from diphtheria, 53 from whooping-cough, 43 from different forms of fever, and 13 from diarrhoea; thus to the seven principal diseases of the zymotic class 199 deaths were referred, against 194 and 181 in the two preceding weeks. These 199 deaths were 67 below the corrected average

number from the same diseases in the corresponding week of the last ten years. The fatal cases of scarlet fever continue to show an excess upon the average weekly number. The 11 fatal cases of diphtheria considerably exceeded the numbers in recent weeks; 4 occurred in Woolwich dockyard, and 3 in Charlton. The prevalence of smallpox has recently increased. The 43 deaths from fever exceeded those in the previous week by 10, and included 4 certified as typhus, 29 as enteric, and 10 as simple continued fever. In the Greater London 2951 births and 2209 deaths were registered, equal to annual rates of 37 and 27 per 1000 of the population. In the outer ring the death-rate from all causes, and from the seven principal zymotic diseases, was 20·4 and 1·8 per 1000 respectively, against 28·9 and 3·0 in Inner London. The mean temperature last week was 46° 0', or 9° 6' deg. above the average.

LAW AND POLICE.

The Judges met on Thursday morning, in the private room of Lord Chief Justice Cockburn, and arranged the spring circuits as follows:—Home—The Lord Chief Justice of England (Sir A. J. E. Cockburn, Bart.) and Mr. Justice Denman; Norfolk—Mr. Justice Blackburn and Mr. Justice Grove; Midland—The Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas (Lord Coleridge) and Mr. Justice Keating; Western—The Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer (Sir Fitzroy Kelly) and Mr. Baron Bramwell; Oxford—Mr. Justice Quain and Mr. Justice Archibald; Northern—Mr. Baron Pollock and Mr. Baron Ampliett; North Wales—Mr. Justice Mellor; South Wales—Mr. Baron Cleasby. Mr. Justice Brett remains in town.

Mr. Justice Keating has announced his intention to retire from the Bench at the end of the present term. He was appointed a Judge of the Common Pleas in 1859, and is therefore the senior puisne Judge.

After occupying for ten days the attention of Lord Chief Baron Kelly and a special jury of City merchants, the trial of the action brought by Mr. Rubery against Messrs. Sampson and Grant, for libels published in the money article of the *Times*, was concluded on Monday, when the Lord Chief Baron occupied nearly seven hours with his address to the jury, to whom he left four questions on which their verdict should be based. They, after an hour and a half's deliberation, found that the three articles in the *Times* were libellous, and that the plaintiff was not guilty of any of the offences imputed to him. They stated their opinion that the plaintiff was entitled to £300 damages, and added that the defendant Grant was not a party to the publication of any of the libels. A verdict was therefore entered for Mr. Grant, and for the plaintiff as against Mr. Sampson. The jury thought there ought not to be any further legal proceedings; but, on behalf of the defendants, many bills of exceptions to the Chief Baron's ruling were tendered.

The Lords Justices had before them on Monday an appeal by the Emma Silver Mining Company against an order made some weeks ago by Vice-Chancellor Malins, requiring the secretary to produce the books before the special examiner appointed to take evidence with reference to a petition which had been presented for an order to wind up the company. Their Lordships dismissed the appeal.

Vice-Chancellor Malins has had before him a heavy bill of costs connected with an unsuccessful bill to restrain an alleged infringement of a patent. Defendant's costs were originally tendered at £2193, but the taxing-master reduced them to £1300, and the plaintiff in the case applied for further reduction of certain items. It was alleged that two guineas a day had been charged for solicitors' attendance, and a guinea for the clerk; the latter was disallowed as unprecedented. The payment of seven guineas a day to scientific witnesses was also objected to, and the point was reserved.

Sir James Hannen, in the Court of Probate, on Saturday last, pronounced against the will of a blacksmith, who, previously to having made it, had been an inmate of a lunatic asylum, and who committed suicide while of unsound mind.

The Court of Appeal in Bankruptcy has decided that two compositions cannot be offered by a debtor, who is not a free agent until the first proceeding taken by him is at an end.

In the Court of Bankruptcy, on Monday, a receiver was appointed to the estate of Mr. Frewer, lessee and manager of the Victoria Theatre, who had filed a petition for liquidation. The liabilities are estimated at £500.

Mr. Mills, M.P., proceeded in the Lord Mayor's Court, on Saturday, against the Metropolitan Railway Company to recover £15,395 as compensation for property of his taken by them for the purpose of the Tower-hill extension; but ultimately a verdict for £11,000 was returned by arrangement.

Thomas Lucas was charged at Southwark, on Wednesday, with an attempt to murder his wife by stabbing her several times in the neck with a knife. The prisoner, it was stated, had repeatedly threatened the woman's life, and had had bills printed offering a reward to any one finding her dead. He was committed for trial.

Two lads, aged fifteen, belonging to a gang calling themselves the "Forty Thieves," were brought up at the Southwark Police Court, last Saturday, for acts of robbery, and were committed for trial.

At Westminster, on Wednesday, Frederick Rayment was committed for trial on the charge of having robbed Mrs. Gell, the wife of a solicitor, of her furniture, which he had undertaken to have warehoused for her. Mrs. Parker, to whom he had made over the property, and who was accused of having unlawfully received it, was discharged.

Mr. Woolrych, the Westminster magistrate, on Monday, refused to take the evidence of a man who appeared as a witness in an assault case, and who declined to be sworn, as he avowed himself an atheist.

M'Ewen, M'Corkell, Beardsell, and Martin, who were tried last week at the Central Criminal Court for alleged frauds in the City, but respecting whom the jury were unable to agree, were on Monday brought before a special jury. When the case was about to proceed, their counsel, Mr. Metcalfe, asked for a postponement till next sessions, and, after strong opposition from the prosecution, the application was granted.

There was a "maiden sitting" at the Windsor Borough Quarter Sessions, on Monday; but the Recorder, in addressing the grand jury, alluded to the prevalence of violent crimes elsewhere, and spoke with approval of the proposal to administer flogging for such offences.

A gigantic bank robbery has been perpetrated in Wiltshire, the spoil amounting to about £16,000, the amount being abstracted by means of the accounts of certain depositors being falsified, and their securities systematically overdrawn. The fraud took place in the little town of Melksham, where the North Wilts Banking Company have a branch. The company offers a reward of £100 for the apprehension of Ernest Awdry Stiles, who was the cashier at the bank in question, who absconded late on Sunday evening last.



TRANSPORTING MERCHANDISE IN EASTERN TURKESTAN.



ENTERTAINMENT TO THE DEAF AND DUMB AT THE FREEMASONS' TAVERN.



THE CHINESE AT SAN FRANCISCO.

THE CAMEL IN CENTRAL ASIA.

Our correspondent, Captain E. Chapman, R.A., who accompanied Sir T. Douglas Forsyth's mission to Yarkund and Kashgar, supplies a sketch of laden beasts, with the following notes upon the Bactrian camel in use in Eastern Turkestan:—"During last year merchandise was transported on camels for the first time from Yarkund across the elevated plateau of the Karakorum to Ladak or Middle Thibet. It is probable that the employment of these hardy creatures along what is known as the Changchunnoo route will greatly assist our traders, who are forced to undertake the difficult journey across the highlands north of Thibet. The Changchunnoo route avoids the extremely difficult pass known as the Sasser, and is throughout less precipitous than what is termed the summer route, across the Karakorum. But it has one great disadvantage, that its extreme elevation is as much as 18,500 ft., and that many days have to be spent, during the transit, at an elevation greater than 16,000 ft., while the number of stages where neither grass nor wood is to be met with are greater than along the less easy road by which the present mission crossed the mountains. The hardy camel which is in use in this country is, however, as ready to face the lofty deserts of the Himalaya and the Pamir as the shifting sands of the Gobi desert. The home of the species here referred to is doubtless in the Oxus valley; but, now that the existence of wild camels on the western borders of China has been finally ascertained by the Russian officers who lately visited Kokonor and approached the Lama city of Lhassa, in Chinese Thibet, it becomes a matter of interest to know which of the species used by man is most nearly allied to the wild camel, whose very existence has so long been doubted." The drawing for our illustration, from Captain Chapman's sketch, was executed by the well-known French artist, M. Guillaume Regamey, whose premature death was announced last week.

THE DEAF AND DUMB.

The Royal Association in Aid of the Deaf and Dumb has an undeniable claim on public support. It was established in 1811 as an institution for teaching trades to the deaf and dumb, and was reorganised as a missionary association in 1854. Its principal object is now to secure for adult mutes religious instruction, imparted in the language which it is thought they can best understand. But it also provides education for those who have passed a certain age without otherwise obtaining it, and seeks by apprenticeships and industrial training to make the deaf and dumb self-supporting. A lecture-room and reading-room, supplied with the illustrated papers and other publications, and with chess and draughts, has recently been established by the association. Its principal place of worship is the new red-brick church at the corner of Oxford-street and Queen-street. The association provides, however, fourteen religious services weekly, in eight different parts of London, under the direction of the Rev. Samuel Smith, chaplain and secretary. There are about 1800 deaf-mutes attending these services in London. On Monday week the annual entertainment of a tea-party was given to 400 of these people at the Freemasons' Tavern. There was a public meeting afterwards in Freemasons Hall, where 700 persons assembled. Sir George Hodgkinson was in the chair. The speeches were interpreted to the deaf portion of the meeting by Mr. Smith, by Mr. J. Sturdee, a missionary to the deaf and dumb, and by the Rev. W. Stainer. This performance on the platform is shown in our illustration. After the speeches there was an amusing exhibition of Japanese masquerade dancers, and one of dissolving views, showing the African experiences of "Livingstone and Stanley." Between the acts a bazaar went on for the sale, by purchase and lottery, of Berlin woolwork, photographs, and other articles, contributed by friends of the institution. The January number of the "Magazine for the Deaf and Dumb" was also sold. It contains an account of a deaf and dumb Scotchman, Alexander Ferguson, who is said to have saved many lives from drowning. Henry Tyler, a deaf and dumb winner of swimming prizes, decorated with medals and holding prize cups in his hands, was introduced to the meeting.

THE

CHINESE IN SAN FRANCISCO.

When our Special Artist, Mr. W. Simpson, after attending the Imperial nuptials at Pekin, crossed the Pacific to San Francisco, he took notice of the Chinese emigrants to California who were his fellow-passengers on board the steam-ship Alaska. More than one sketch of this subject he placed in our hands, with copious notes, of which the following may here suffice:—

"Since the late war in America between North and South, the emigration of Chinese to the United States has assumed the proportions of an historical feature in that country. The Chinese have come in great numbers to San Francisco, and California has consequently received the greatest number of them; but they have also penetrated to New York, Boston, Oregon, and the plantations of the Southern States."

"The present illustration will convey an idea of the Chinaman as he is in the United States and the changes which take place in his appearance. He undergoes a few slight modifications, but they are principally external. The Chinese have brought with them nearly all their own institutions, including joss-

houses, and their own peculiar theatre. They congregate in one part of San Francisco, which is for that reason called 'China-town.' The streets in this quarter are all built like the other parts of the city; there is no Chinese architecture here. But otherwise the place is as purely Celestial as if it were in the 'Middle Kingdom.' Every article to be found in Chinese shops may be purchased here. Chinese signboards hang out, and orange pieces of paper with writing on them are in all the windows. 'Washing and ironing' seem to be done almost wholly by the Chinese, and that is always expressed on their signs in badly-painted English letters.

"It is a mark of degradation for a Chinaman to lose his pigtail, so even in America he sticks religiously to that distinctive ornament. But the great feature here is that he has adopted the wide-awake. This is universal. I have not seen a Chinaman in San Francisco without one, and they are all very much of the same cut. It is not the slouching wide-awake or the billycock hat, but a small hat with a flat brim, which has a sailor-like appearance. Often, as they do in their own country, they wind the pigtail round the head like a turban, and the hat goes over all. Another distinctive change is the adoption of European trousers; and this is as universal as the wide-awake. It gives John Chinaman a breeches pocket, which he seems to be proud of, for he has his hands continually in that portion of his dress, a practice which his own costume did not permit of. I believe that in this he copies a common American habit, but it gives him the appearance of having something in his pocket; it is suggestive of the idea that he is a man of means, and that he has dollars where the hand loves to be. Many have also adopted European boots and shoes, but a great number walk about the streets of San Francisco with their own thick, white-soled shoes. Mrs. John Chinaman retains all the peculiarities of costume belonging to the land she came from. She dresses her hair in the peculiar Canton fashion, and uses the same skewers and ornaments which she has been all her life accustomed to. Compressed feet are not common in the southern parts of China, and I have seen none in San Francisco. The Chinese baby is quite unchanged here. Climatic influences do not seem to affect his features, costume, or language. The fond papa sits at his own door acting the part of nurse with that well-pleased expression which may be seen anywhere in the Flowery Kingdom.

"The 'Chinese question' is one that is at present much debated in this country; and very opposite opinions are expressed on the subject. From one point of view the Chinaman is looked upon as the only means of developing the resources of the State. Cheap labour is scarce, and he is supposed to supply what, from this point of view, is considered to be the greatest want of the country. He is talked of by these advocates as the greatest boon to the State. The opposite side of the shield is given in equally strong relief, and John Chinaman is branded as 'the curse of the country' and the 'ruin of everything.' As in so many other cases, the real truth is probably somewhere between these two very extreme views. Men judge here, as elsewhere, from their own interests, and wherever the Chinaman's labour competes with that of the person who speaks of it, the cry of evil is heard; on the contrary, those who have managed to benefit by this new institution are loud in its praises. The politician felt anxious as to which side John would give his vote to, if he should take it into his head to be naturalised and become a citizen; but all anxiety has been set at rest from the fact that John will not become an American. He considers his own political and religious system to be the best on the face of the earth, and refuses all allegiance to any other. He does not come to America to stay, but to get dollars, and then return to his own land. Should he die in America his body is preserved and sent back, for he believes that he can only get to heaven by being buried on Celestial soil. The Churches here are in favour of the Chinese emigration, from hopes of being better able to convert them; but John has a profound contempt for all systems but his own, and as yet he is as purely heathen here as in his own land. It astonishes the most of people to find that every one of these 'Heathen Chinees' can read and write his own language—that, in fact, however poor, he is an educated man. He brings to this foreign land his virtues as well as his vices. He has schools, where his children learn to repeat the classics, as in China; and there are opium-shops, where he intoxicates himself, after his own fashion. But here he is the same good-natured, industrious, hard-working fellow that he is at home.

"These emigrants come from six different districts in and about Canton. For the regulation of the traffic there are six separate guilds or companies. These guilds are named See-Yup, Mung-Yung, Sam-Yip, Hap-Whaw, Kong-Chew, and Sam-Hup. These guilds have corresponding offices and managers in San Francisco, where, upon the arrival of the emigrant, they provide lodgings and employment for him. The offices see that he is paid at a fair rate, and that his agreements with employers are correct and just. For this a small fee has to be paid, and continued while his employment lasts. The aggregate of these fees amounts to a large sum, and they are able to give help to those who pay when in sickness or out of employment. They also not only see that the emigrant receives whatever is due to him, but they make him pay all his just debts; and he cannot leave America to return to his own country till he gets a certificate from the agent that he owes nothing. By patient industry and frugality, virtues eminently characteristic of the Chinese, in about four years a man may have saved

from 200 to 400 dollars, and in many cases even more. Such sums being a fortune to a Chinaman, he returns to his native place. Many buy houses for their parents, or spend the money and return again to America. Indeed, there are nearly as many of these people making the return voyage as those proceeding to California.

"The system of Chinese emigration is under the control of the English and American Consuls at Hong-Kong, and is to be distinguished from the coolie traffic of other parts. No emigrant can be received on board till he has appeared before the English emigration officer and the United States Consul, and declared that he goes of his own free will and is under no labour contract. Again, shortly before the vessel proceeds to sea both these authorities pay a visit to the ship, when every passenger is mustered before them on board, to see that they have all got their tickets stamped, and that none are being taken from their own country against their will."

INTERNATIONAL TREATIES.

Mr. Edward Hertslet, C.B., librarian and keeper of the papers in the Foreign Office, has completed the first portion of a work of considerable importance from a domestic and international point of view. It is the publication in a compendious form of the treaties and tariffs regulating the trade between Great Britain and foreign nations and extracts of treaties between foreign Powers, containing most-favoured-nation clauses applicable to Great Britain in force on Jan. 1, 1874. The book may be described rather as a valuable supplement to than a substitution for the well-known standard work, "Hertslet's Commercial Treaties," by the author's father, which may be regarded as a text-book on the subjects to which it relates.

Mr. Hertslet proposes to take the countries in alphabetical order, and begins with Austria. In order to show the want of some such work, he gives the following explanation:—"It is well known that a desire has recently been publicly expressed by Austria, Turkey, and other foreign Powers to revise their commercial treaties not only with this country, but with other States. Nowhere, however, exists giving in a convenient and accessible form, in one volume, the treaties which are in force at the present date between this country and foreign States; so that, in the event of information being required with regard to any particular State, it would necessitate a very careful search through many volumes, published in a variety of languages, to ascertain it. To obviate this inconvenience in future, and to save others the labour and trouble which such a research would inevitably entail, I have undertaken to compile the present work."

Having referred to the cases of Austria, Turkey, and Spain, Mr. Hertslet calls attention to the impossibility of giving a literal construction in the nineteenth century to stipulations of ancient treaties renewed and confirmed by modern international obligations. Thus, for instance, in one of the latest treaties concluded between this country and Tripoli (signed on May 19, 1812, and which is still in existence) it is stated that the Bashaw of Tripoli, being desirous of maintaining inviolable the existing treaties between the two countries, declares that they shall have their full effect and virtue, and be looked upon as renewed and confirmed. One of the treaties thus confirmed was the treaty of May 1, 1874, in which the following singular passage occurs: "Whoever shall at any time violate and break any part of the said article or articles of peace shall assuredly be punished with the greatest severity, and his or their heads shall immediately be cut off, and forthwith be presented unto any officer whom the most Serene King of Great Britain shall authorise to make demand thereof."

The author wishes it to be understood that, although the publication of these parts (of which the present is the first of the series) has received the sanction of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the undertaking itself is purely a private one, and that he is solely responsible for the facts recorded, as well as for the accuracy of the statements made therein.

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THE LATE SIR S. BIGNOLD.

The death of this respected gentleman, at the age of eighty-three, took place on the second day of the new year. He was, during a long and active life, much associated with the commercial and social progress of Norwich, his native city. During more than fifty years he held the office of Secretary to the Norwich Union Assurance Society; and we recorded, not long ago, the presentation of a testimonial upon his retirement from that post. He served the city as Sheriff in 1830, and was four times Mayor, the last time in 1873. A Conservative politician, in 1854 he was elected M.P. for Norwich, but sat only three years in the House of Commons. The honour of knighthood was conferred upon him in 1854, when he presented to her Majesty the Norwich loyal address in support of the war against Russia. Sir Samuel Bignold's wife, who died in 1860, leaving a numerous family, was a daughter of William Atkins, Esq., of Ridlington. The portrait is from a photograph by Messrs. Maull and Co., of Piccadilly.

SAN REMO.

The picturesque little town of San Remo, chosen by her Imperial Majesty the Empress of Russia for a winter residence, owes much of its rapidly-increasing popularity to the beauty of its position and salubrity of its climate. The old town is a curious and most intricate labyrinth of steep zigzag narrow streets and dark alleys; and so high are the grim houses, with their overhanging balconies and arcades, that it is only at rare intervals the pedestrian is enabled to catch a passing glimpse of the blue sky above. But if the old town be interesting from its quaint picturesqueness, the new town springing up at its base is far more inviting, with the handsome hotels fronting the sea, the coquettish villas scattered here and there, some on the seashore, others dotted about on the surrounding hills, and almost all nestling in gardens bright with orange and lemon groves, and shaded by the tropical and graceful palm-trees. All these features combine to tempt the tourist to linger awhile in this favoured spot, and enjoy the *dolce far niente* so dear in southern climes. Add to these advantages a climate exceptionally mild and equable, and a fine sandy beach, and it will be owned that



THE LATE SIR SAMUEL BIGNOLD, OF NORWICH.

San Remo is not unworthy of the honour conferred upon her by the Empress of Russia and by the ex-King of Spain—that of being preferred and chosen from among the many gems of beauty scattered on the shores of the Mediterranean to be their winter resting-place. Our view of San Remo is from a photograph by Mr. Mouhot, of Nice. He is a brother of Mr. Henri Mouhot, the traveller, artist, and man of science, who explored the ruined temples in Cambodia.

A BOYS' SCHOOL, BERLIN.

The surprising development of national strength in Prussia and the other North German States is due in great measure to their wise provision for a thoroughly efficient education of the whole people. It was by disciplined intelligence, and by the habits of order and diligence and prompt obedience taught in their common schools, that the German soldiers were enabled in 1870 to win so many battles in France. The same qualities are likely to make them formidable competitors of the English and Scottish working classes in some of the branches of industrial and manufacturing enterprise which have been productive of so much wealth to this country. Yet there is nothing very imposing in the aspect of an ordinary school-room at Berlin, which is shown in our Illustration; and, whatever may be the intellectual furniture of the master's head, the sight of those desks and forms, those black boards and slates, and that press filled with grammars, catechisms, and text-books, is very much like that of similar "educational apparatus" in any English teaching-shop. The boys, too, seem to be of the same species as other little boys, though learning their lessons of useful knowledge in a different language; and it is probable that some of them would like better to be engaged in a game at marbles or in tossing a ball. The schoolmaster, indeed, is evidently a man of commanding presence, with a certain soldierly air. He seems resolute enough to secure attention to his precepts here; as he would do in his military capacity, being a non-commissioned officer of the Landwehr, should he be once more called upon to serve another campaign. It is in the schoolroom, first of all, that the freedom and the true welfare of a people must be gained by a moral and intellectual conquest.



SAN REMO, ITALY, THE WINTER RESIDENCE OF THE EMPRESS OF RUSSIA.

A RELIC OF ACTIUM.

Says Mark Antony (as reported by our Shakespeare), "I'll fight at sea." To this rash determination he is encouraged by the wilful beauty of Egypt, merely to spite his more prudent counsellor, Enobarbus. She promises the aid of her own fleet. "I have fifty sail," says Cleopatra; "Cæsar none better." This is more than enough for Antony, who thus vainly boasts:—

Our overplus of shipping will we burn.
And, with the rest full-manned, from the head of Actium,
Beat the approaching Cæsar!

The head of Actium is a point of land at the entrance to the Gulf of Arta, on the coast of Albania, the ancient Epirus, which is separated by that gulf from the north-west frontier of Greece. It is about half-way between the isles of Corfu to the north, and Cephalonia, to the south, in the Ionian Sea; but nearly opposite to Brindisi, at the southern extremity of Italy, which was the great naval arsenal of the Roman Empire. No place, therefore, could be more suitable for the decisive conflict, in the year 31 B.C., between Octavius Cæsar, afterwards the Emperor Augustus, who had made for himself a strong party in Rome since the murder of his uncle Julius, and the clever but reckless voluntary, whose rule of the East had been abused for the gratification of a shameless woman. We know, and best learn from Shakespeare, the issue of that famous sea-fight, through the cowardice or treachery of Cleopatra, whose fleet deserted that of Antony in the midst of the action.

Naught, naught, all naught! I can behold no longer!
The Antoniad, the Egyptian admiral,
With all their sixty, fly, and turn the rudder.
To see't mine eyes are blasted. She being luffed,
The noble ruin of her magic, Antony,
Claps on his sea-wing, and flies after her.
I never saw an action of such shame;
Experience, manhood, honour, ne'er before
Did violate so itself. Alack, alack!
The greater cantele of the world is lost
With very ignorance. We have kissed away
Kingdoms and provinces.



BRONZE PROW OF A ROMAN GALLEY FROM THE BATTLE OF ACTIUM, B.C. 31.

That is Shakespeare's way of telling the story, which we prefer to any Latin or Greek author's. Well, it is known that the Imperator Octavius Cæsar Augustus, to celebrate this victory, built or rebuilt a Temple of Apollo at Actium, and founded the city of Nicopolis. Its ruins are near the town of Prevesa, which Ali Pasha stormed and sacked in a merciless fashion, to the fierce exultation of Byron's wild Suliotes. The late General Sir Howard Douglas, when Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands, in 1839, got possession of an interesting relic of that great naval battle. It was the bronze prow, or figure-head at the prow, of a Roman galley—doubtless one of the vessels sunk in the fight. This was dredged up in the outer bay of Prevesa, and Sir Howard Douglas presented it to the Queen. Her Majesty lately gave it to the British Museum, where we have been permitted by Mr. C. F. Newton, the learned custodian of classical antiquities, to make the drawing for our Illustration. The figure bears on its breast a sculptured Gorgon's head, that of Medusa or one of her two dreadful sisters, with snaky hair and but one fatal eye between them. It must have been a terrible emblem to thrust over the shattered side of a weaker enemy's vessel, when the crashing timbers were riven asunder by the sharp beak of this ancient war-ship, with all the force of two or three hundred oars. But in the present instance, whether the ship belonged to Cæsar's, or to Antony's, or to Cleopatra's fleet, it appears to have got the worst of the encounter. Nineteen centuries of history, in Pagan and Christian Europe, have passed over the many nations of the old Roman empire and of succeeding kingdoms while that staring Gorgon's head of bronze lay still at the bottom of the sea.

Inspector Henderson, of Manchester, has been elected Chief Constable of Leeds, out of seventy-one candidates.

MEMBERS OUT OF PARLIAMENT.

Recent extra-Parliamentary utterances have been somewhat interesting. There has been even a sort of semi-interest attaching to Mr. Stansfeld's lecture on the constitution and powers of the Local Government Board as it now exists; and no doubt he has a right to point out in the most cheery tone the latent as well as the outward and visible merits of an institution which he claims as his own creation. Many people may think that there is an improvement in the designation of the board, and that, if not exactly euphonious even now, it has not such a saddening sound as the "Poor-Law Board," which implied that it was necessary in this country to have a great department of the State to supervise its pauperism. It is universally believed that Mr. Stansfeld was the most assiduous and laborious of officials, and he may well be excused if, out of office, and talking of his late career, he indulges in a little natural complacency.

The borough of Cambridge contains one of the most capricious of constituencies. For a very long time it has been the field in which successive candidates for Parliamentary honours have tried to win their spurs. With every new Parliament it has had new representatives; and, looking to the character of the elections it has gone through, it is very difficult to say what really are its prevailing politics. Sometimes it has returned two candidates wholly Liberal, as in 1868; oftener it has chosen to be represented upon the one-and-one system; and now it has members who are both Conservative—the constituency no doubt having caught the Tory epidemic which raged at the last election. As ever, its members are strangers; and the choice of one of them, for aught that the uninitiated can see, is very strange. Of Mr. Marten, Q.C., who is one of them, it may be said that he has by so much—but which, it is believed, is not very much—a claim to the suffrages of the townsmen, in that he is a member of the University; but, practically, he came with no overt claim on the constituency, except his own merits as a professional man, and as having ere now fought at least one losing battle in the Conservative cause, having sought in vain to win a seat at Nottingham at the general election of 1865. More than once during the last Session he gave the House a taste of his quality; and on one occasion he availed himself of that favourable opportunity which is implied in a very thin House—a dull phase of debate and the listlessness of the few present—to deliver himself at portentous length. In a gentle monotone he spoke for a time—which need not be specified further than by saying it was a long time—without either comma, semicolon, or full stop; and gave the idea that his voice could "murmur on a thousand years, and flow as then it flowed." What is quite certain is that he was not pretentious; and probably his speech contained much that was sage and worth listening to. This is said in the light of the address which he delivered recently at Cambridge, which was no mere platform clap-trap, meant to "catch the ears of the groundlings," but a thoughtful review of the political situation, coming from a philosophical Liberal Conservative. For many years Mr. Smollett represented Dumbartonshire, and in a certain way he was distinguished, for he was a bitter satirist, a great phrase-maker (in a stinging sense), and an uncompromising Tory. In 1868 he did not offer himself for re-election, ostensibly on the ground of natural weariness in a man of his age; though probably he was unwilling to encounter the avatar of Gladstoneism and Liberalism which swept over the constituencies, and was as powerful in Scotland as elsewhere, even his successor, who now ranks as a Conservative pure and simple, being obliged to profess a leaven of Liberalism and a willingness to disestablish the Irish Church. However, at the last election Mr. Smollett came like a giant refreshed to Cambridge town—why thither is of course hidden in the secret councils of electoral agency—and, with Mr. Marten, succeeded in ousting Sir Robert Torrens and Mr. William Forster, whose conduct in the Parliament then deceased was such as to make them members so prominent as to be worthy of the renewal of the suffrages of any constituency but the fickle and inconstant one of Cambridge. Last year Mr. Smollett, evidently without consultation with, or perhaps despite of consultation with, the leaders of his party, placed a motion of censure on the late Government, and Mr. Gladstone in particular, on the paper. The tradition of his specialty as a dryly humorous ruler sufficed to draw a large house; but he contrived to so out-Smollett Smollett, so to present the harshness, not to say coarseness, of his phrasology, without its being tempered by epigram or wit, that his speech was an utter failure, and needed not the really dignified, and at the same time smarting, rejoinder of Mr. Gladstone to cause his utter extinction, which was proved by the abrupt termination of the debate, no man caring to continue it. Possibly he was in a gentler vein at Cambridge the other day, and if so no doubt he was amusing to his constituents.

Mr. Trevelyan has been going a circuit through the group of towns which make up the Border Burghs, which he represents, and he has certainly delivered speeches admirable in their conception and their tone. The first of these was pronounced before Mr. Gladstone had formally declared his abdication of the lead of the Liberal party, and that gentleman was spoken of in a manner so gracefully appreciative and at the same time so justly impartial that point was given to the keen satire on his overt deprecators, of whom the chief was his own familiar colleague (he could not have been his friend) whom he had raised to that dignity out of the bat-like condition in which the ex-Solicitor-General was flying between the two parties and pouring out vials of sarcasm and ridicule equally on both. The conduct of that gentlemen since the defeat of the late Ministry has not hitherto received such a polished castigation as Mr. Trevelyan bestowed upon it; and the half-contemptuous allusion to the temporising utterances of the ex-Attorney-General was, in its way, quite equal to the more direct and stinging comments on the other ex-law officer. There is much besides, in the series of speeches which have been delivered, that will repay perusal.

The borough of Maidstone is fortunate in its representatives. In Sir John Lubbock they have a man "so various" that he may be likened to an incarnate kaleidoscope. Certainly it is almost puzzling to understand how grand banking capacity can be combined so felicitously with "Divine philosophy" and deep and loving study of natural history. In one hour he may be found directing a great financial operation, and in the next delighting a mixed scientific and popular audience with a dissertation on the relations between flowers and insects, and presenting in the most pleasing way one of the most interesting phases of the economy of nature. He is a practical philanthropist, too; and, withal, such is the simplicity of his manner, and such the youthfulness of his appearance, that those who know all about him can hardly help deeming him a prodigy. Then there is Sir Sydney Waterlow, who in his way is a man of mark, and certainly one who illustrates by his deeds the solidarity of philanthropy. It is undeniable that the providing of healthy and commodious dwellings for the working classes is one of the great questions of the day, and to the

solution of that problem Sir Sydney has been for years, and is still daily, contributing. As may be supposed, in the House Sir John Lubbock is a personage; and, though he has as yet been reticent, as becomes a neophyte member, Sir Sydney Waterlow has shown that he is capable of adding something to debates which come within his special sphere of knowledge. It is to be hoped that their relations with their constituents, whom they have been lately addressing, are as mutually agreeable and beneficial as those between "Flowers and Bees."

FINE ARTS.

WINTER EXHIBITION AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

In continuing our review of the works of the British school we have still to notice the examples of the three great portrait painters—Reynolds, Gainsborough, and Romney. The first is very variously and on the whole favourably represented. A portrait to the knees of the Hon. Captain Hamilton (114) was painted in 1746, and is one of the earliest works which brought Sir Joshua into notice. The influence of his master, Hudson, was still upon him, though he seems to have looked also at Vandyke in this instance. The large fur coat worn by the Captain recalls the circumstances of his death by drowning from the upsetting of a boat, when it is said he might have saved his life if he could have divested himself of a great coat he had on. The group of the second Earl of Egmont and his wife (90) is another early work, as may be seen by the careful completion of the modelling. But the vast change which Reynolds's treatment underwent may best be seen in the companion groups of the Ladies Amabel and Mary de Grey, afterwards Countess De Grey and Lady Grantham (139), and the late Earl De Grey, when Lord Grantham, Frederick Robinson, afterwards Earl of Ripon, and Philip Robinson (144). In the first picture the future Lady Grantham is ten years old; in the second, her son, Lord Grantham, is ten years old. But although a wide interval of years separates these works, the first is not "one of the earliest pictures painted by Sir Joshua," as stated in the catalogue. The ghostly aspect the two girls present of itself suffices to prove that it belongs to the period when Reynolds had commenced the series of experiments in glazing, and to discover other presumed Venetian secrets, which have ruined so many of his works. No doubt this picture was originally richly glazed with carmines, lakes, and vegetable yellows, colours which Reynolds (like Turner later) recklessly employed, though known to be extremely fugitive, and which, accordingly, have all fled. However, beneath is exposed the preparatory solid painting which reveals the careful draughtsmanship, and the delicate gradations of modelling which distinguish the master's early style. The other picture very clearly reveals the fact that Reynolds, under the pressure of fashionable demand, adopted the shortest and readiest means for effect—the gradations which give roundness in details are omitted, the leading contours alone are rendered, and these are emphasised by a certain straightness and swiftness of stroke, the result being a decided mannerism, though the subtle touches that fix those points of expression which characterise and give value to all the painter's works are rarely, if ever, absent. The other works belong generally to the artist's middle and late period. Two of them deal with childhood with that sympathetic felicity in which the bachelor painter was unsurpassed. "Lady Caroline Montague Scott" (43), or "Black Calash," as it is called, represents a little toddler of three or four equipped for a walk in the snow-covered park forming the background, with a black hooded cloak over her shoulders, a quaint black hat, resembling an inverted cone, the white lining of which throws silvery reflection over the face; her hands tucked in a long, crimson muff, and a robin and a dog in the snow on either side. The cold deepens the ruddy glow of her cheeks, and her mouth is open, gasping the frosty air. Walpole was delighted with this picture when it was in the exhibition of 1777, and says, writing to Lady Ossory, "One longs to catch her up in one's arms, and keep her till she is in a sweat, and squalls." "Lady Gertrude Fitzpatrick" (73), another child-portrait, is better known as "Collina," a title it derives from the hillock on which the little girl stands, with charmingly arch demureness. The drawing of the figure is feeble or careless, but an unusually lucent golden tone pervades the picture, particularly over the blue sky. Ill-drawn, probably injured, and altogether far inferior are the "Cupid" (16) as a linkboy, and the "Mercury" (6), another ragged little archin, but both from the same favourite Hedge-lane model. "The Nymph and Child" (63), so called in the catalogue, but better known as "Venus and Cupid," is unusually fine in design; it still retains a Titanesque glow, and is charming in feeling. The sweetly tender yet innocent expression with which the nude damsel eyes the peeping boy through the trees of the arbour was a new thing in art in this class of subjects. The full-length of Mrs. Pelham Clinton (108) feeding chickens is naïve and pleasing, but not so fine in colour and style as some of the preceding. It was painted in 1770, when the lady was Miss Aufre. Her husband became the first Lord Yarborough. Other noteworthy examples of Reynolds are the excellent whole-length of Colonel Coussmaker standing beside his horse (155); the Ladies Elizabeth and Henrietta Montague (160), painted in 1757, a group which has something monumental or sculpturesque in the treatment; and a bust of the artist himself, with his hand to his ear (155), indicating his deafness, as in another well-known portrait, where he has a trumpet to his ear.

Gainsborough's light and airy touch and his thin method of painting, accompanied as they are with exquisite truth of character and expression and (viewed at the proper distance) a generally complete rendering of the forms in detail, will lose nothing by comparison with the more grandiose manner of his rival. The fulness of characterisation, as well as the grace and refinement, which distinguishes Gainsborough's works is naturally more observable in his portraits of elderly persons; as, for example, in the seated portrait of W. Lowndes Stone, Esq. (46), an inscription on which records that Mr. Stone was an auditor of the Exchequer, aged eighty-three and eight months, and which is dated "Bath, 1771." The still bright sagacious face and the admirably-painted spaniel seated beside the old gentleman show how completely the artist's style was formed before he left the fashionable watering-place to settle finally in London. Still more remarkable is the seated half-length of "Mary, Duchess of Montague" (156). Never have the lineaments and traits of old age been treated with greater delicacy and truth than in this face, worn and attenuated by age, yet full of dignity withal. The brilliant grey harmony of the colouring is also noticeable, and we wonder that a place could not have been found for such a portrait where it could have been well seen. The lovely and loving group called "The Two Sisters" (12), with their winning, indeed almost too self-conscious, smiles, is an example of Gainsborough's familiar charm in dealing with female beauty. This picture fetched the large price of 6000 gs. when, two seasons ago, it was knocked down at Christie's to its present possessor, Mr. W. Graham, of Glasgow. More naively sweet is the unfinished group (98) of the painter's two daughters, one of them playfully adjusting a flower in the hair of the other. The figures had been ruthlessly separated,

as indicated by the division of the frame. The group is said to have been bought jointly by Macready and Mr. John Forster, and the canvas then divided, but afterwards reunited by its present owner, the last-named gentleman. Very delightful, too, are the "Girl and Lamb" (151), probably one of the sisters last named; the "Miss Juliet Mott" (230) and "Mrs. Carr" (88). The large Marsham group is altogether inferior (81).

Romney is numerically not largely represented, but some of his works are so excellent that we cannot be surprised that for a time he "divided the town" with Reynolds in the height of his popularity. It was long the fashion to depreciate this painter, but recent criticism places him more nearly on a level with his great rivals. The two whole-lengths of Mr. Jeremiah and Mrs. Milles in the vestibule (259 and 264) will well bear comparison with Reynolds's average works of the same character; while Gainsborough's success is often in inverse proportion to the size of his canvas. A small portrait of Miss Harriet Milles (213) and "The Parson's Daughter" (206) are full of natural grace and sweetness. The portrait of Mrs. Wells, the actress (26), known as "Cowslip" among her contemporaries for her assumption of rustic simplicity, is not a happy example. It does not bear out Mrs. Wells's reputation for beauty; and the stupendous hat suggests unfavourable comparison with a portrait by the same artist with similar head-gear, which was one of the finest works at Burlington House two or three years back. "A Portrait of a Lady" (52), by Hopper; the "Abbé Gregoire" (38), by Sir Martin Shree; "Dr. Richard Wright" (243), by Wright, of Derby; and "A Child," by Constable, the landscape-painter, may also be mentioned. Other works of mark in the English school not hitherto mentioned are a large picture by F. Danby, after the manner of John Martin, of "Pharaoh and his Host Overwhelmed in the Red Sea" (208); an unfinished picture, by Wilkie, of "John Knox Dispensing the Sacrament at Calder House" (5), which betrays signs of decadence; and "The Duke of Gloucester Taken into the Water-gate at Calais" (2), a very dramatic sketch by David Scott, an erratic genius whose imagination outstripped his technical power of expression.

We must reserve the pictures of the foreign schools for a future article.

Messrs. Rowney and Co. have issued an elegant Artists' Almanack for 1875, containing useful information, in a small compass, relating to fine-art galleries and museums.

Mr. P. Cunliffe Owen has been appointed the new managing director of the Bethnal-green Museum. Mr. P. L. Simmons has been commissioned by the Department of Science and Art to form a collection for the museum, showing the utilisation of the waste products of manufacture. Amongst the latest additions to the museum is a collection of one hundred water-colour drawings by French and English painters, lent by Sir Richard Wallace.

The Academy states that Mr. C. Heath Wilson is engaged in an elaborate examination of the frescoes in the Sistine Chapel, for which purpose he has been supplied by the Vatican authorities with a scaffolding of more than 50 ft. in height. On the state of the frescoes he writes as follows:—"I have seen those on the vault of the Sistine under the most favourable circumstances possible, to learn with a conviction settled and immovable that these are the greatest and most perfectly-executed works of fresco-painting in the world. They have been frightfully illused. It is not smoke only which has damaged these immortal works, but rude and barbarous hands have been there. I think that the damage might be remedied. The 'Last Judgment' has been so repainted in many parts as to be in no respect—I mean in point of general effect and chiaroscuro—what Michael Angelo made it; but the vault frescoes, at any rate, have not thus been used, they are, for the most part, free from barbarous and monstrous retouching; but portions have been scoured, I know not when, by working masons, I suppose, for no other hands could have used them so; but the divine painting, although soiled, is there as he left it—as it came from his hands and mind, in all its majesty, its beauty, and its absolutely matchless technical skill; and reverent hands might remove cobwebs and dust, and might stop gaping cracks, and clean away smoke—for the frescoes are hard and sound. I wiped away cobwebs with a silk handkerchief, and a dark accumulation of this from the breast of Adam. As these hung down in dirty festoons, veiling beauties, I could easily, with a light sweep, not touching the surface, cause these accumulations of, I suppose, some generations of spiders to fall down in dusty, dusky filaments. I am quite persuaded that the picture of the 'Last Judgment' was originally harmonised by Michael Angelo with the ceiling, with all his matchless skill; its dissonance has been caused by the work of later times, and in some places it has been mended by hands not trained in any knowledge of art at all."

LONDON FIRES IN 1874.

At the meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works yesterday week Captain Shaw presented his annual report, from which it appeared that the number of supposed fires during the year was 1750, of which 89 were false alarms and 88 chimney fires. There were 1573 calls for fire, of which 154 resulted in serious damage and 1419 in slight damage. The fires of 1874, as compared with those of 1873, showed an increase of 25, but, compared with the average of the last ten years, showed a decrease of 6. The number of fires in the metropolis during the year in which life had been seriously endangered was 73, and the number of those in which life had been lost was 19. The number of persons seriously endangered by fire had been 157, of whom 134 were saved and 23 lost their lives. Of the 23 who lost their lives 13 were taken out alive, but died afterwards in hospitals or elsewhere. The journeys the fire-engines made from 49 stations were 6872, and the total distance run was 21,181 miles.

The quantity of water used for extinguishing fires during the year had been 16,579,295 gallons, or about 74,000 tons. During the year there were 47 cases in which the water supply was unsatisfactory.

The Fire Brigade consists of 49 fire-engine stations, 106 fire-escape stations, 4 floating stations, 54 telegraph lines, 86 miles of telegraph lines, 3 floating steam-engines, 5 large land steam-engines, 21 small land steam-engines, 85 manual engines, 129 fire-escapes, and 395 firemen.

A meeting of the Irish Roman Catholic Prelates was held in Dublin on Tuesday. Cardinal Cullen presided, and twenty-six Bishops attended. The business transacted was in reference to Maynooth College. It is understood that the meeting had no political significance.

A new tug-boat was launched, on Tuesday, at her Majesty's Dockyard at Devonport, and, for the first time since its compilation, the form of prayer prepared by the Archbishop of Canterbury was used. The service was read by the Chaplain of the yard. This latest addition to her Majesty's Navy was named the Perseverance by Miss Edith Louisa Stewart King Hall, daughter of the Admiral Superintendent of the yard.

MUSIC.

The Crystal Palace Saturday Afternoon Concerts were resumed last week, when the twelfth performance of the nineteenth series took place. The symphony was Beethoven's No. 7 (in A), a work which foreshadows much of the vast idealism of his closing production of the kind, the Leviathan No. 9, the "choral" symphony including a setting of Schiller's "Ode to Joy." The want of appreciative recognition of the seventh symphony for some years after its first hearing has long since disappeared, and been replaced by a general and enthusiastic admiration, such as its transcendent merits and grand originality could scarcely gain but by intimate acquaintance. Its performance on Saturday was worthy of the work and of the band, and of Mr. Mans, the conductor. The other orchestral pieces were the bright and genial overture to Mendelssohn's comic opera, "Die Hochzeit des Camacho" (composed at the age of sixteen), and that to Rubinstein's romantic opera "Dimitri Donskoï," one of four such works which he produced as a series illustrative of Russian nationality. This overture was given on Saturday for the first time in England. It is full of passion and impulse, and contains some elaborate orchestral writing; but, having been placed at the end of the concert, it scarcely received the attention it deserved. The vocalists were Miss Sophie Löwe and Mr. E. Lloyd, the former of whom sang the soprano scene from the first act of Spohr's "Jessonda," and (with more effect) lieder by Rubinstein, Schubert, and Brahms. Mr. Lloyd gave the scene of Sir Huon, "O 'tis a glorious sight to see" (from Weber's "Oberon"), with good declamation, and two songs of Schubert with much expression. Robert Schumann's pianoforte concerto in A minor was superbly played by Mr. Oscar Beringer, whose excellent rendering of the same work at a Crystal Palace concert in February, 1871, was commented on by us at the time. Mr. Beringer also accompanied the German lieder. At this week's concert Herr Wilhelmi, the eminent violinist, is to play, it being his first appearance here since 1866.

This week's Monday Popular Concert consisted entirely of music by Mendelssohn, the same pieces having been performed at the very first of these performances, on Feb. 14, 1859, last Monday being the 500th thereof (including the Saturday afternoon concerts). The programme now referred to opened with the fine quintet in B flat, op. 87, one of the many works left in manuscript at the death of the composer in 1847, two years after its completion. The next instrumental piece in Monday's selection was the sonata for piano and violin, one of the several instances of Mendelssohn's remarkable precocity, having been composed when he was scarcely fifteen. Following this, the beautiful theme and variations for piano and violoncello were given, this piece having been written (in 1823) for the composer's brother, Paul Mendelssohn, an accomplished amateur violincellist. Monday's concert was worthily closed by the third of the string quartets, that in D major (No. 1 of op. 44), an especial favourite with Mendelssohn, as indicated by his letter to Ferdinand David of July 30, 1838, announcing its completion. Three of the executants at Monday's concert were also engaged on the earliest occasion, above referred to. These were Mr. L. Ries (second violin), Signor Piatti (violoncello), and Sir Julius Benedict (accompanist). How finely the instrumental works just specified were performed at the 500th Popular Concert may be inferred from the names of the artists—these having been, in addition to those specified, Madame Norman-Néruda as leading violinist, Herr Straus as principal viola, Mr. Zerbini as second viola (in the quintet), and Miss Agnes Zimmermann as pianist. Two of the two-part songs, "The Sabbath Morn" and "I would that my love," were expressively sung by Mdlle. Nita Gaetano and Miss Alice Fairman.

The grand concerts established in November at the Royal Albert Hall by Messrs. Novello, Ewer, and Co. were resumed on Thursday evening. The performances are now wisely limited to two per week, instead of being given nightly, as heretofore. Thursday's programme included Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony, and Mendelssohn's violin concerto, played by Herr Wilhelmi (his reappearance after several years' absence). Mdlle. Johanna Levier and Mr. Sims Reeves were announced as the vocalists. The concert took place too late for specific notice until next week. "Israel in Egypt" will be the next oratorio performed at these concerts on Tuesday next. The solo parts will be sung by Mdlle. Johanna Levier, Miss Katharine Poyntz, Miss Antoinette Sterling, Signor Fabrini, and Mr. Sims Reeves.

The Royal Albert Hall Amateur Orchestral Society will begin its third season on Saturday, Jan. 30, with a concert for the benefit of the funds of St. Thomas's Hospital, the date having been postponed for a week.

The third season of the British Orchestral Society will begin on Wednesday evening, March 10; the remaining concerts being announced for March 31, April 7 and 21, May 5 and 12. Mr. George Mount is again to be conductor.

A meeting of the Gloucester Festival stewards has just been held in that city to decide whether a third of the collections at last year's celebration should be given to the Worcester charity, owing to the determination of the Dean and Chapter there not to allow the use of the cathedral for the next festival. A letter was read from the Bishop of Worcester, in which his Lordship said two considerations seemed urgently to require that the tripartite division of the collections be not departed from this year, whatever might be done in future. Firstly, all the advertisements announced that the collections should be for the benefit of the three dioceses, and the money was given on that condition; and, secondly, the Worcester choir co-operated with the others on the same understanding. A resolution was unanimously passed to pay the money. Another was proposed that notice should be given to terminate the connection with Worcester, but was withdrawn, on the representation that it was premature. Coventry Church was suggested as a fitting place for the next festival.

Dr. Stephens has reported to the Local Government Board as to the condition of Darwen, where a large number of persons recently died from enteric fever. He attributes the outbreak to a contaminated water supply and a long-continued neglect of sanitary arrangements.

Six ice-masters have been engaged for the Arctic Expedition. Four are from Dundee, and two are from Peterhead. They are all hardy navigators, and have had much experience in sailing in Arctic regions in whaling-vessels. Their terms of engagement are £100 per year and half outfit. They will hold the rank of petty officers on board the exploring-ships.

The *Sussex Daily News* announces that the committee to whose hands the Sub-Weyland Exploration is intrusted have resolved to abandon the present boring after six ineffectual efforts to recover tools which have dropped down and obstructed the hole. The Diamond Boring Company having made a very favourable offer to commence again, a contract for the completion of 1000 feet for £600 has been agreed to, with a conditional promise to execute the second thousand feet for about £3000 additional. Mr. Willett, hon. sec., has guaranteed £600, and appeals for further funds.

THEATRES.

VAUDEVILLE.

Mr. Henry J. Byron has added another to the list of his dramatic compositions. The facile pen of this able writer is in constant requisition, and provides a variety of entertainments, the number of which, emanating from the pen of a single individual, is almost incredible. But herein does not consist the author's sole merit, quality as well as quantity being a characteristic of his productions. Few writers of the present day have such a command of bright, pithy, epigrammatic dialogue. He may be said to have puns at his fingers' ends, so rapidly do they crop up at every available opportunity. His latest effort is a new and original comedy, in three acts, entitled "Our Boys," produced last Saturday night at the Vaudeville Theatre. In this piece Mr. Byron has surpassed himself in his own peculiar province of wit and humour. Seldom has it been our lot to listen to such a succession of sparkling jests and brilliant repartees as greeted our ears on this occasion. The story is slight, but the action is brisk and the situations are effective. The characters are all distinct personalities, and are ingeniously contrived to act as foils to each other. In the drama Sir Geoffrey Champneys (Mr. William Farren), a rigid aristocrat, and Perkin Middlewick (Mr. David James), a retired butler, who has amassed a large fortune in trade, and who, being a vulgarian, makes sad havoc with his h's, and otherwise commits himself in the presence of his aristocratic acquaintances, his money alone entitling him to their recognition, are placed in ludicrous contrast with each other. The sons of these respected gentlemen, Talbot Champneys (Mr. Thomas Thorne) and Charles Middlewick (Mr. Charles Warner), both of whom have received a liberal education, have met each other on the Continent, and returned home as travelling companions and allies. These characters are also contrasted with each other, the latter being an enthusiastic individual, who admires everything he has seen on the Continent, the pretty women especially; the former an incorrigible modern dandy, who sports an eyeglass, combs his hair straight down from the middle, hates books and intellectual pastimes, and who, being asked his opinion of the Rhine, makes the astonishing rejoinder that the only thing in it that called for his especial observation was "mud."

The two young men have been educated upon widely different principles, the Baronet exacting from his son rigid obedience, the tradesman allowing his son to follow the bent of his own inclinations. For a time all goes well, and each parent believes in the infallibility of his educational system. Presently it comes to a question of matrimony, and affairs begin to assume a gloomy aspect. Ultimately the parents discover that their sons have fallen in love with the wrong women, Talbot preferring Mary Ambrose (Miss Amy Roselle) to her wealthy and somewhat supercilious cousin; and Charles having fixed his affections on Violet Ambrose (Miss Kate Bishop), the rich heiress. A terrible scene ensues, all parties remain obtuse, the aristocratic Baronet and the plebeian tradesman agree together to play the "Roman father;" and, as the result of their disobedience, turn their sons out of doors. The third act presents the outcast offspring gaining a miserable livelihood as literary hacks. Ultimately a reconciliation is effected between the parties, and an effective tag brings the piece to a happy termination. The success of the comedy was unequivocal, the audience testifying their approbation in the most uproarious manner, summoning the author to the footlights at the end of the second and third acts, and in various ways evidencing their appreciation of the merry dish served up to them by the facetious dramatist. As regards the acting, the palm of the evening must be awarded to Mr. David James for his assumption of the character of Perkin Middlewick, the retired butler. This gentleman's make-up was perfect; and, from the first scene to the last, he succeeded in carrying out the intention of the author. His mutilations of the Queen's English, and his attempt to draw out his son upon the subject of his Continental tour, together with his expressed dissatisfaction that he had not ordered an eruption of Mount Vesuvius, "because," as he sagaciously remarks, "you know, my boy, I didn't limit you," were particularly diverting. His rage and indignation levelled at his son for his persistent courtship of the supercilious heiress was emphatically pronounced, and secured for the actor a recall to the stage. Whether discussing politics with his aristocratic acquaintances or revelling in his own peculiar theories—one of which being "Tis money makes the mare go"—or conspiring with Sir Geoffrey to enact the part of the Roman father and finally breaking down in the appalling effort, he was every inch of him a butler—a bright and glorious specimen of the fraternity to which he belonged. Mr. Thomas Thorne was exceedingly effective as Talbot Champneys, keeping the audience in roars of laughter with his dry, trite sayings, and making love upon his knees (the same being at the suggestion of his mistress), after the fashion described in our popular romances. Sir Geoffrey Champneys received ample justice at the hands of Mr. William Farren; and Mr. Charles Warner gave an able rendering of the character of Charles Middlewick. Miss Kate Bishop and Miss Amy Roselle were graceful and animated as the two cousins, Violet and Mary Ambrose; and last, not least, Miss Cicely Richards achieved a complete triumph in the character of Belinda, a lodging-house servant; her burst of indignation at the false accusation brought against her by the lodgers' visitors in the last scene meeting with an enthusiastic response. The leading characters crossed the stage at the end of each act; the author was loudly cheered, and the production must be recorded as a decided "hit."

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.

Mr. and Mrs. German Reed put forth another novel entertainment, in the shape of a new First Part. Mr. Gilbert A'Beckett contributes the libretto, which is entitled "The Ancient Britons," in which the writer imagines the state of Britain three thousand years hence. The music, composed by Mr. German Reed, is, of course, good; and the scenery, painted by Mr. O. Connor, represents the ruins of Westminster. The design is ingenious, and will prove interesting.

MASKELYNE AND COOKE.

These gentlemen have prepared a new surprise for their drawing-room visitors at the Egyptian Hall, in the shape of a mechanical figure, only twenty-two inches high, the movements of which, it is stated, are caused and governed by a secret intelligent force. Poised on a transparent glass cylinder, isolated on the stage, it may be surrounded by any number of persons while in operation without any agency being discovered. It will play a game of whist, perform a succession of conjuring tricks, and do other things which imply the exercise of memory. The utmost freedom of examination is allowed to the spectators, but the secret of its structure remains undivulged. It is, indeed, a marvel of mechanism.

The late Rev. Dr. Forbes, of Free St. Paul's Church, Glasgow, has by his will bequeathed for various charitable purposes in that city, in Perth, and in St. Andrew's, sums amounting in all to £10,000.

MUSICAL PUBLICATIONS.

"The Pianists' Library" (Messrs. R. Cocks and Co.) has now reached upwards of twenty numbers, and comprises pieces in the classical and brilliant schools by various eminent composers. The editor, Mr. Brinley Richards, has contributed two original compositions—an andante cantabile and a caprice. The first is characterised by an agreeable flow of melody in the nocturne style, the second being of a more impulsive character. This piece is a good study for arpeggios and octaves.

From a group of songs recently published by Messrs. R. Cocks and Co. we may specially point to Mr. H. Smart's capital national song, "Victoria," transposed to the key of B flat from G, thus being made suitable for voices of a somewhat higher range. Signor Pinsuti's songs, "Waiting for the Swallows" and "Poor Ellen," will find favour with the admirers of simple and expressive melody, both lying within the range of any voice of moderate calibre. Of similar merit are Signor Campana's songs, "Only to see thee" and "Memories of home." Here, again, no singer, even of the most moderate pretensions, will meet with any deterring difficulties, either as to execution or range of voice. All these are published by Messrs. R. Cocks and Co., as are the following effective transcriptions of well-known vocal pieces as pianoforte solos:—Mr. Wrighton's ballad, "Her bright smile haunts me still," arranged by Henri Rosellon; Spohr's aria (from "Azor and Zemira") "Rose softly blooming," by Mr. G. F. West; Signor Pinsuti's "In shadow-land," and Miss M. Lindsay's "When the ship comes home," by Mr. Brinley Richards.

Messrs. R. Cocks and Co. have issued an interesting pamphlet, containing historical and miscellaneous notices of the antecedents of the Hanover-square Rooms, which have recently been let to a club. The final use of the rooms for musical purposes was in December last, when a concert was given there by the Royal Academy of Music, as noticed by us at the time.

"Music for the Nursery" is the title of a pretty little volume published by Messrs. Partridge and Co. The contents consist of a series of fifty songs, the words and music of which are well suited to juvenile capacities, and a large number of wood engravings that enhance the interest of the book, the small price of which renders it largely available as a present to young people.

NEW CHARTERHOUSE SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

The new buildings at Godalming, in Surrey, five miles beyond Guildford, now occupied by the Charterhouse School, removed from its ancient site between Smithfield and Aldersgate-street, in the city of London, have been fully described in this Journal. Our illustrations are from photographs by the Surrey Photographic Company, of Guildford. One represents the main range of buildings, composing two quadrangles of cloistered courts, with hall and chapel, designed by the architect, Mr. P. Hardwick, in the fourteenth-century Gothic style. The dormitories in the three boarding-houses comprised within these main buildings accommodate 150 boys; each house contains also two large day-rooms, one for the upper boys and one for the lower, and sixteen or twenty small chambers for private study. There is a hall for the school in general, 82 ft. long by 32 ft. wide, with six adjoining lecture-rooms or class-rooms. In the corridors are preserved many of the stones and wooden beams from the old building in Charterhouse-square, upon which some famous pupils of the school have carved their names. Amongst these are Isaac Barrow, Addison and Steele, John Wesley, Chief Justice Blackstone, Archbishop Sutton, Lord Chief Justice Ellenborough, Sir Henry Havelock, Bishop Thirlwall, Mr. Grote, Thackeray, and John Leech. The other subject of an illustration is the first detached house, for one of the masters, erected apart from the main buildings. There will be several other masters' houses for the reception of boarders. The architect of this house, which is occupied by the Rev. J. T. Hodgson, was Mr. C. V. Hayward, Montagu-street, Russell-square. The situation of the New Charterhouse School is healthy and pleasant, about forty miles from London on the direct Portsmouth railway. The grounds, partly wooded, extend over sixty acres, including both hill and meadow, with the banks of the river Wey for a bathing-place. It is much better for the boys to live there, no doubt, than in the neighbourhood of Smithfield. The site of the old Charterhouse School is now occupied by the Merchant Taylors' School, for boys attending daily.

UNITED SERVICES COLLEGE, WESTWARD HO.

"The object of the United Services Proprietary College at Westward Ho is to provide for the sons of the officers of the Army and Navy an inexpensive education of the highest class and of a general nature. It is also to prepare them for the military, naval, and civil examinations, or for the Universities, or for the liberal professions, or for mercantile and general pursuits. Under certain conditions, sons of civilians will be admitted." This is the opening statement of the prospectus of the United Services College. Such an institution for the two Services has long been required; a school where officers' sons could obtain an inexpensive yet thoroughly good education, and be well cared for and subjected to wholesome discipline. Westward Ho, as a site, was considered by those best able to judge to possess the following advantages. It has a bracing but not rigorous climate, well suited for growing boys; most articles of food are cheap, of excellent quality, and plentiful. Buildings capable of accommodating about 200 boys and masters were procurable at once for £11,000; such buildings would have cost £18,000 and have occupied two years at least in building. When the college has accumulated sufficient funds the present temporary buildings may perhaps be sold for nearly double their cost, and a college may then be built, on the latest and most improved principles, on a more open and extensive piece of ground. There are at Westward Ho and in its vicinity numerous suitable residences, houses, and lodgings, both furnished and unfurnished, at rents varying from £25 to £300 per annum. There is a common, of at least 1000 acres, close to the college, suitable for all purposes of exercise and healthy recreation. Westward Ho is reputed to be one of the healthiest seaside places in the kingdom. It is situated at Northam Burrows, just outside the estuary of the Taw and Torridge, on the coast of North Devon, and not far from Bideford. The name is derived from Canon Kingsley's English historical romance of the Elizabethan age; this being the scene of Amyas Leigh's boyhood and youth.

The *Gazette* announces the appointment of Lord Exeter to be Custos Rotulorum of the Soke of Peterborough, in the room of Lord Kesteven, deceased.

A banquet to celebrate the incorporation of St. Ives, in Huntingdonshire, was held last week in the Corn Exchange, under the presidency of Mr. Read Adams, the first Mayor. The Duke of Manchester, Sir H. Pelly, Bart., M.P., and several of the leading landowners of the county were present.



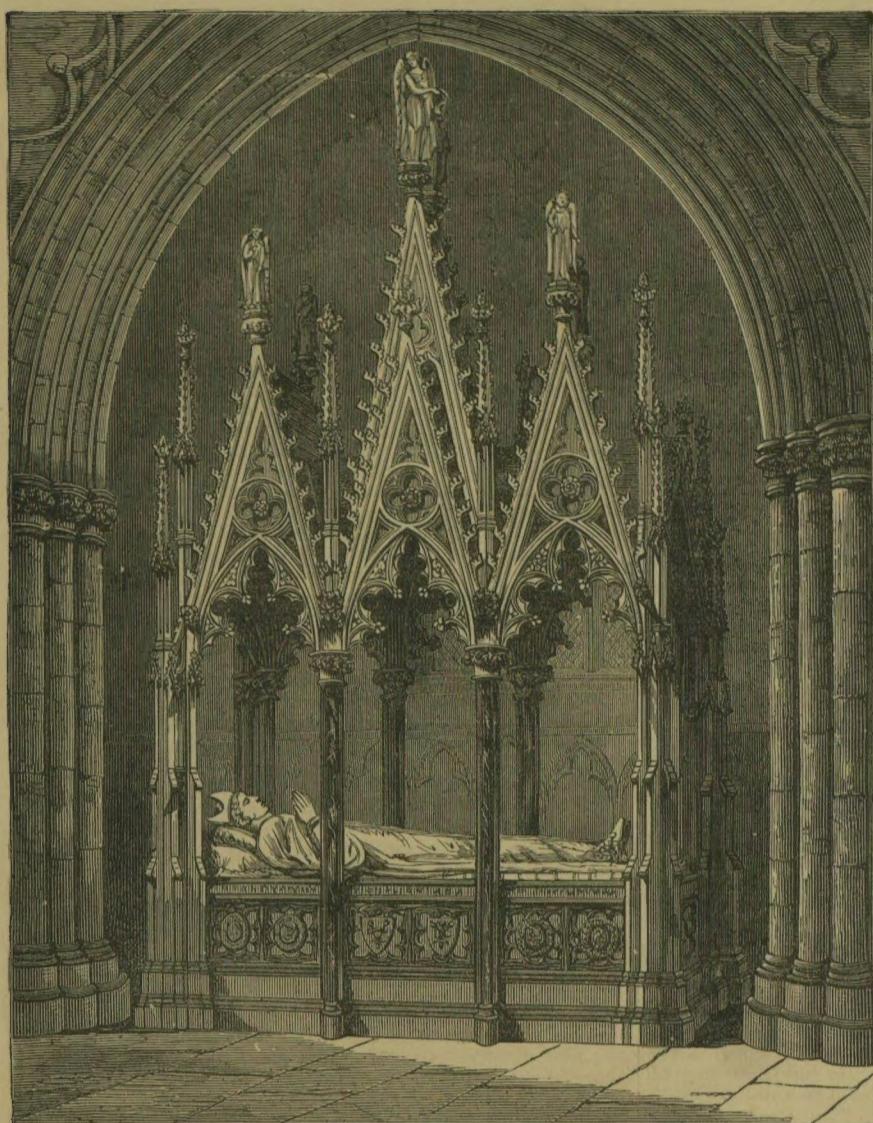
THE NEW BUILDINGS OF THE CHARTERHOUSE SCHOOL AT GODALMING.



THE REV. J. T. HODGSON'S HOUSE, CHARTERHOUSE SCHOOL, GODALMING.



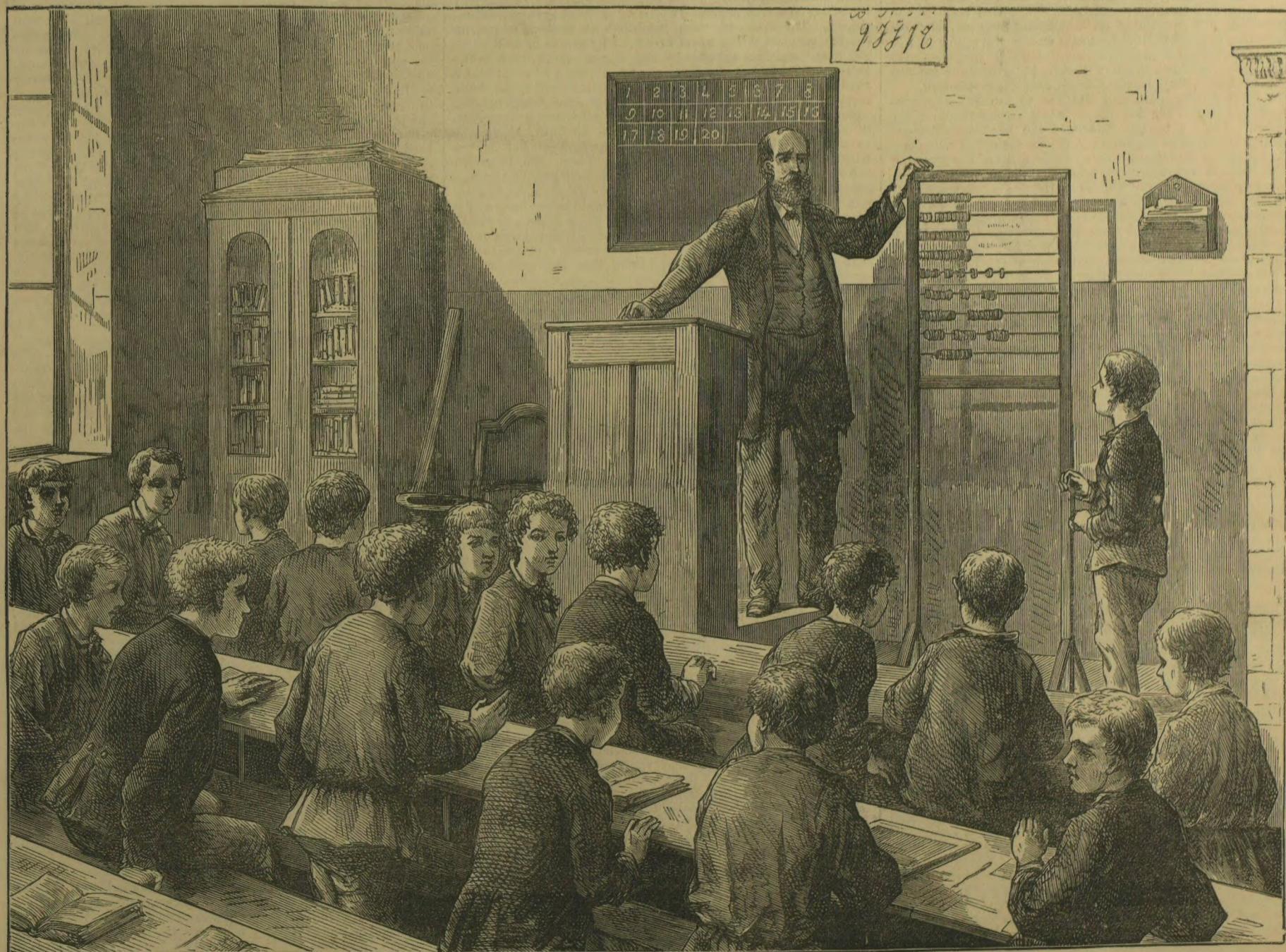
UNITED SERVICE PROPRIETARY COLLEGE, WESTWARD HO, NORTH DEVON.



MEMORIAL TO BISHOP LONSDALE IN LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL.



OPENING OF THE SCIENCE AND ART MUSEUM, EDINBURGH.



A BOYS' SCHOOL, BERLIN.

BISHOP LONSDALE'S MONUMENT.

This monument is placed in the easternmost bay on the north side of the choir in Lichfield Cathedral. It was designed by Sir G. Gilbert Scott, R.A. The design is based on various important monuments of the Early Decorated style in the fourteenth century. It consists of a pedestal supporting a recumbent statue, with canopies above it. This recumbent statue of the late Bishop is of Staffordshire alabaster, and was sculptured by Mr. G. F. Watts, R.A. The figure is draped in a cope, with mitre and crozier. At its feet lies a dragon, this being the mediæval way of typifying Victory over Sin. The pedestal under the statue is composed of rich marbles and Staffordshire alabaster. The cornice is of verde antique marble, and the dado is alabaster, displaying sculptured panels with the arms of the late Bishop and those of the see of Lichfield, and monograms of our Lord's name and passion. The base is of Levant red marble. The four cluster shafts, with their flying buttresses at the angles, are of magnesian limestone from Mansfield Woodhouse. The four intermediate columns are of verde antique marble; the capitals are all of Mansfield Woodhouse stone. The canopies, richly moulded and carved with crocketing and intermediate pinnacles, are of oolitic limestone from Painswick; but the angle finials are of Derbyshire alabaster. The whole of the work was executed by Messrs. Farmer and Brindley, of Westminster-road, except the statue by Mr. G. F. Watts. The Venerable Archdeacon Moore took a very lively interest in this work on behalf of the committee. Dr. Lonsdale was Bishop of Lichfield twenty-four years, till his death, in 1867.

EDINBURGH SCIENCE AND ART MUSEUM.

The Museum of Science and Art in the Scottish capital, formed on a plan similar to that of the South Kensington Museums, is situated behind the mansion of the University of Edinburgh, between South Bridge-street and George IV.'s Bridge-street. Its buildings, constructed at the expense of Government, will consist, when finished, of three portions, erected at different times. The first section was opened for public use in May, 1866, upon which occasion his Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh presided over the company. It consisted only of the east wing, next the University, and a small part of the central hall. These have since been occupied by the valuable and instructive collections, especially of natural history; but there has been great want of space. The second portion of the museum buildings is now completed, and was opened by the Lord Provost of Edinburgh (Mr. Falshaw) on Thursday week. The west wing remains to be constructed, agreeably to the general design, which was furnished by the late Captain Fowke, R.E. The middle section, which has, we observe again, just been opened, carries the façade westward to the point at which the new wing will come in. It includes the main entrance, which presents three stately round-headed doorways, approached by two flights of broad steps. Passing within, the visitor finds himself in a hall, measuring 270 ft. in length by 70 ft. in width, and 72 ft. in height, with two spacious galleries on ranges of light columns. This hall is lighted chiefly from the roof, and is painted in light green and French grey, picked out with red. On the south side, communicating with it through wide openings, are two smaller halls, also lighted from the roof, and round which both galleries are continued. The space between the smaller halls is appropriated, on the ground floor, as a refreshment room, with kitchen underneath, and in the upper stories as apartments used at present for administrative purposes. On the basement level is a range of workshops, with stone-vaulted cellars for heating apparatus, storage, and other purposes.

In turning to account this addition to the building, considerable alteration has been made in the arrangements of the Museum. The hall towards the west end has been set apart for the illustration of manufacturing processes. Much space is thus added to the natural-history department of the museum, and to this will hereafter be added the second of the new halls. In the great central hall, of which two-thirds may be considered new, the additional space on the ground floor has been occupied by an extension of the collection of engineering and architectural models. The first gallery receives fresh specimens of art-industry in glass, pottery, and metal-work; and the second gallery is now capable of accommodating the extensive series of food products, with everything relating to husbandry and forestry.

The art-history collections have been greatly augmented, and rearranged, under the direction of Professor Archer; and an attractive Loan Collection has been added, with many contributions from the South Kensington Museum of the Science and Art Department. The newly appointed Director at South Kensington, Mr. Philip Cunliffe Owen, C.B., was present at the Edinburgh ceremony last week. The Lord Provost was accompanied by Mrs. Falshaw and Mrs. Archer. He wore the uniform of Lord Lieutenant. About two thousand ladies and gentlemen were present, amongst whom were the Provosts and other municipal dignitaries of several towns, the judges, military officers, and many of the gentry of Scotland. A conservatory was filled with beautiful flowers and exotic plants by the Lawson Seed and Nursery Company; and the bands of two regiments, the 1st Royal Scots and the 1st Royal Dragoons, enlivened the company with music. We give an Illustration of the scene; but the proceedings were very simple. A brief address was delivered by the Lord Provost, and there was a procession around the Museum. Refreshments were provided.

The Catholic Apostolic Church at Albury, near Guildford, was the scene of a very unpleasant and alarming occurrence on Sunday last. During the communion service a young man rushed into the pulpit, demanding to be heard upon some personal grievance of which, it seems, he imagines himself to be the victim; and, upon being requested to withdraw, he drew a sword from under his coat and flourished it in the air in an excited manner, threatening any one who should dare to approach him. Upon further remonstrance he produced a loaded pistol from his pocket, which he declared he would fire at the officiating minister if any one interfered with him. After he had remained for some in this threatening attitude, some persons succeeded in arresting his attention for a moment, and a gentleman, who had for some time parried his sword-cuts with his umbrella, rushed up the steps of the pulpit and secured him, not, however, until he had received a severe cut on the back of the hand. The young man, who proved to be the Rev. John Symes, of the Irish Episcopal Church, and was staying with his friends, members of the above congregation, was removed to the vestry, and thence to the residence of Mr. Reginald Bray, the county magistrate, at Shere, where he was examined by two medical men, Dr. Capron and Mr. Fisher; and, on their certificates and a warrant signed by the Duke of Northumberland and Mr. Bray, he was removed, under the care of Superintendent Parkes, to Guildford as a dangerous lunatic, pending arrangements for his removal to Brookwood Asylum. He wore an orange sash under his greatcoat, and on examination the sword was found to have been recently pointed and sharpened, and the pistol capped and loaded with ball.

ROYAL INSTITUTION LECTURES.

STRUCTURE OF THE GLOBE.

Dr. P. M. Duncan, F.R.S., Professor of Geology, at King's College, London, gave the first of a course of three lectures on the Grand Phenomena of Physical Geography, on Thursday week, the 14th inst., his subject being the structure of the globe and the relations of the subsidence and upheaval of its crust to its shape and rigidity, and the dissipation of heat or energy from its surface. After noticing the rise and progress of physical geography since the close of the seventeenth century, when no scientific theory existed concerning the formation of the globe, he specially explained the views of Hutton, who considered the present aspect of nature to be the result of the slow operation of the physical forces now at work in accordance with the laws of the Great Creator. This theory of slow causation, for a while checked, was revived by Elie Du Beaumont and others, and has been greatly supported by the profound study of thermo-dynamics by Thomson and Mallet. The Professor next explained the nature of the figure of the earth, specially referring to the protuberance at the equator, its causes, and its important effects. He then commented on the condition of the surface of the globe, with its curved, folded-down strata, and the instability of the so-called crust during all ages, the present included. The enormous pressure to which substances in the earth at a great depth are subjected was illustrated by reference to Sorby's researches on the cavities of crystals, some of which probably contain liquefied gases. Newton's happy conjecture that the weight of the globe compared with water is about five to one, the Professor stated, had been verified by recent researches. He then explained the theories of Thomson and Tait concerning the rigidity of the mass, assuming the globe to be at least as rigid as steel throughout and to be subject within to a vast pressure. He next considered the relation of these conditions to the internal heat, referring to the results of researches which have proved the increase of temperature with that of depth to be about one degree of Fahrenheit in 65 ft., and commenting on some of the anomalies and on the irregularity of geothermal lines. In conclusion, Professor Duncan, after advertizing to Thomson and Mallet's estimates of the amount of the dissipation of energy, stated that the slow cooling of the globe during all the geological ages had been attended by irregular contraction of its substance, and that the result of this force was the production of tangential thrusts, successive, inconstant, and unequal. Hence proceeded the curving of the strata, grand subsidences and upheavals, the formation of mountains, and volcanic action.

ACOUSTICAL PROBLEMS.

Professor Tyndall, D.C.L., F.R.S., at the first evening meeting of the season, on Friday, the 15th inst., gave a discourse on his recent endeavour to solve some acoustical problems. After making visible, by means of the electric light, streams of transparent carbonic acid gas, sulphuric ethers, and the heated currents rising from a lighted candle, their shadows being thrown upon a screen, he said that it had been proved by experiment that waves of sound travelling at the rate of 1120 feet a second, on encountering a quantity of carbonic gas, were retarded to the rate of 900 feet, but recovered their original rate on emerging from the gas. By a succession of such changes he said that portions of the sound would be thrown back, and, if continued, would be totally wasted. In this way the waves of sound are interrupted by a heterogeneous atmosphere. The Professor then exhibited his method of testing the propagation of the waves of sound by means of a sensitive gas-flame, which is agitated by very slight sounds, such as the ticking of a watch. On the present occasion he employed a reed sounded by his assistant, Mr. Cottrell, to which the flame responded. He thereby showed that waves of sound coming upon sheets of hot air are reflected, and wasted in a succession of echoes: the mixed air, transparent to light, is opaque to sound. The same occurred with a sheet of hot air as with a sheet of glass. On the other hand, the Professor showed by experiments that the sound-wave passed through substances impervious to light, such as layers of calico, muslin, and baize, and even through felt. He said that so long as the air is continuous through the substance the sound-wave passes through, and the transmission of sound is not interrupted even by rain or a snowstorm. Referring to his experiments, in 1873, at the South Foreland, he stated that the existence of strata of heated air, or air charged with aqueous vapour, even in very clear days, has been proved by their intercepting the sound through the production of aerial echoes; and then, by showing how a ray of light sent into a tube containing chalky water penetrated into the liquid less and less as it was made more turbid, he said that the duration of the echo of sound in like manner depended upon the density of the medium. He then explained the method he adopted in his endeavour to solve the following problem. In June, 1822, a commission of French savants (Arago, Humboldt, Gay-Lussac, and others) made a series of experiments to determine the velocity of sound. Three were stationed at Villejuif, and three at Montlhery, both places south of Paris, and 11½ miles distant from each other. Every report of the gun fired at Montlhery was heard at Villejuif; but the greater number of reports from Villejuif failed to reach Montlhery, though the air was calm, and the wind against the direction in which the sound was best heard. Respecting the cause Arago wisely declined to put forth conjectures without proofs. Professor Tyndall, after studying the records of these experiments, compared them with the facts obtained by himself in his researches at the South Foreland and with other observations. He showed that when a glass screen was placed near the source of sound the sensitive flame was still; but when the screen was brought near the flame the sound-wave bent over the screen and the flame was agitated. After illustrating his views by suggestive experiments, he expressed his conviction that Montlhery, at the occasion referred to, was surrounded by a highly diacoustic atmosphere, while that at Villejuif was acoustically opaque. Villejuif is close to Paris, and over it the air from that city is slowly wafted; thousands of chimneys to windward discharge heated currents, so that an atmosphere highly non-homogeneous surrounds that station. The aerial echoes must have followed the direct sound so hotly and vanished so rapidly that they escaped observation. As the sensitive flame in the experiment at a distance failed to be affected by the sounding body close behind the glass screen, so did the observers at Montlhery fail to hear the sounds of the Villejuif gun. This Dr. Tyndall considers to be the explanation of Arago's difficulty. George Busk, Esq., F.R.S., the treasurer and vice-president, was in the chair.

MOZART AND HIS WORKS.

Mr. Edward Dannreuther began his lecture on Saturday last by describing the state of society in South-Eastern Germany during the life of Mozart, who was born at Salzburg, Jan. 27, 1756, and died at Vienna, Dec. 5, 1791. There were then a dissolute, pretentious, poor nobility, a narrow-minded clergy, and an inert bourgeoisie. During that time the most musical of musicians threw out, with restless activity, blossom after blossom and fruit after fruit; like nature, possessing an extraordinary fecundity. His 626 works comprise twenty-three operas, besides sonatas, masses, choruses, songs, and a

great variety of vocal and instrumental works, not a single piece being trashy—the most part masterly. In Mozart's time musicians were considered to be merely a superior class of servants; and he, in 1781, was one of the chamber fiddlers of the Archbishop of Salzburg, and dined with the valets and cooks. The Emperor Joseph, Frederick of Prussia, and other sovereigns were themselves musicians, and the composers had to adapt their works to their Majesties' powers of execution. For the best account of Mozart Mr. Dannreuther referred his auditors to the recent biography by Otto Jahn. Mozart's family were artisans; his father, a violinist in the service of the Archbishop of Salzburg, was a man of firm religious character, who sacrificed his own prospects to the musical education of his son, a tender-hearted, delicate, sensitive little fellow, with a nervous system well-balanced and healthy, high-strung and susceptible in an abnormal degree, and taking hold of everything with passionate ardour. Mozart, though he knew his own powers too well to be over-modest, zealously studied the works of Bach, Handel, and other great masters. He was of small stature, but well proportioned, with a rather large head. His general appearance was not striking, but when he began to play or conduct an orchestra his spirit shone out like the sun breaking through a cloud. The incidents of his life are very few. Until he came of age he travelled over Europe as a phenomenon, and from his twenty-fifth year to his death he resided at Vienna as a pianist, teacher, conductor, and composer. He sat on the lap of Pompadour in the Court of France, and was petted by our George III. and Queen Charlotte. . . . His easy, graceful church music frequently lacks religious warmth, and the true Mozart is to be found upon the musical stage. His ripest operas show his absolute mastership over all possible combinations of musical sounds, and the richness and variety of emotional phases. In literary culture he was deficient, which shows his delicacy of taste to have been innate. His associates were generally vulgar—those who dined and supped with him and borrowed his money; yet Mozart the man stands out as pure and refined as his music. His actions throughout life, his sayings and his letters, portray him as one of the most charming and lovable of human characters.—The musical illustrations, upon the pianoforte, were Mozart's fantasia and sonata in C minor, and his rondo and sonata in A minor, charmingly rendered by Mr. Dannreuther.

DEVELOPMENT OF ANIMALS.

Mr. E. Ray Lankester, M.A., gave his second lecture on the Pedigree of the Animal Kingdom on Tuesday last. Before the theory of descent was accepted, he said, the larval forms, through which animals pass from the egg-state to maturity, were ascribed to a certain mysterious law of growth, which is now considered unsatisfactory for various reasons, more especially on account of the numerous exceptions to it. In the new doctrine of descent two great forces or powers are recognised—heredity and adaptation. Heredity is that which makes the child like its parent. The substance of the offspring being the same as that of the parent, it possesses the same properties. The development of an organism, whether plant or animal, very much resembles that of a crystal, with this important qualification, that the forms assumed by living matter are very much more elaborate. The minute egg-cell contains an arrangement of molecules, a perfect machinery, which, let loose under suitable conditions of life, must, by the necessity of its own constitution, result in the development of a living form like the parent. If heredity had full play, and there were no interfering causes, every egg would bring before us a complete recapitulation of its ancestral history. But, by the operation of the power of natural selection and the survival of the fittest, the line of descendants has been greatly modified. These differences are now attributed to the adaptability of the organisms; that is to say, to their power of losing, changing, and modifying their parts and properties under the influence of external causes. In order that the resemblance between parent and offspring may be perfect, the offspring must be placed in exactly the same circumstances as the parent, which it never is. Hereto differences arise, and these are transmitted to its offspring. Adaptation, therefore, is an antagonist of heredity, since it effaces the hereditary stages of development, or masks and obscures them. Adaptation also explains the fact that in the development of some animals there is a more extensive series of larval changes than in others. Mr. Lankester concluded his lecture by commenting on the development of the earthworm, all the various stages of which were represented on large diagrams, and pointing out what he considered to be due to the forces of heredity and adaptation.

Professor Huxley will, on Friday next, the 29th inst., give a discourse on the recent work of the Challenger, and its bearing on geological problems; and on Saturday next Mr. J. T. Wood will give the first of a course of four lectures on the Discovery of the Temple of Diana and other results of the Government Excavations at Ephesus, conducted under his superintendence.

LIFE-BOAT SERVICES.

The Richard and Anne Warner life-boat at Duncannon, Waterford Harbour, belonging to the National Life-Boat Institution, was called out on the 19th inst. to the assistance of the crew of a brig ashore on the rocks near this place. Fortunately, she was successful in saving all the shipwrecked men, nine in number. The vessel was the Victoria, of Venice, bound from Cardiff to Constantinople with a cargo of coals.—A large barque, the Britannia, of North Shields, went on the rocks a mile to the northward of Port Logan, N.B., some days since, and became a total wreck. The crew were fortunately enabled to land in safety on the rocks. The vessel was bound to the Clyde with a valuable cargo of sugar, and the master afterwards engaged assistance to enable him to dismantle her and to save all they could from the wreck. While the men were thus engaged the day after the vessel went ashore, the wind suddenly veered round to the south west and blew a strong gale, the heavy seas overwhelming the hull of the wreck and compelling all on board to take refuge in the rigging. Intelligence of their perilous position was conveyed to the Port Logan life-boat station of the National Institution, and the Edinburgh and R. M. Ballantyne life-boat promptly proceeded to their assistance, through a very high sea, and was enabled to save the whole of the men, fourteen in number. Amongst those rescued were some of the regular crew of the life-boat, whose places on this occasion had to be supplied by volunteers.

Mr. Auberon Herbert has notified to the Shakers that they can occupy his barn for four more weeks, and after that they must leave. They are determined not to quit the neighbourhood, and will again turn out into the lane. One of the Shakers, who brought £300 and two horses into the community, travels the country sharpening saws, and endeavours to prove to anyone who will listen that Mrs. Girling is the woman alluded to in Revelations. The Sheriff has offered compensation for damage caused to their property by excessive distraint. The amount is under consideration. There is sickness among the community.

FAMILY JOKES.

The worst of it is passing away. That it continues with sufficient vigour throughout the year we know only too well; but the height of the "funny man's" season is certainly from the twenty-fifth of December till the latter end of January. Christmas is supposed to be a time of merriment; and all the old, old jokes which we had thought long ago comfortably buried are dragged to light, no doubt with the intention of making us laugh (laugh! because some one describes catching crabs as a shell-fish occupation!), but serving rather as death's-heads to remind us of the long years that have rolled away since first, in their bright and cheery youth, we heard them.

Christmas is a time of balls, parties, family gatherings, and "quiet evenings;" and at all of these do funny men shine. Even at a ball a funny man of the first water, not to be repressed by the fact that a large proportion of the people present are probably total strangers to him, makes his miserable puns, asks his conundrums from last year's *Punch's Almanack*, cuts his undignified capers and makes hideous faces, with a rich enjoyment of his own wit which it is good to see. At a more private party or a gathering of family friends he is in still greater force; but it is a "quiet evening" which, perhaps, draws him out most thoroughly—he fears no rival (there could not be two funny men together on one "quiet evening"!), and is only too happy if with his songs or imitations, his quips and cranks and wiles of the most wanton, he can engross everybody's attention till the night is ended.

Is there anything more miserable than the being compelled to smile at the stale jokes of these men—except, indeed, the feeling that one must in pity laugh when a man not generally comic indulges in a jest—in one poor little, very bad witicism? Why a joke should not be just as amusing on its fiftieth utterance as on its first, it is hard to say—and why one sometimes laughs at a very bad joke, simply because one has never heard it before. One does not tire of good wine or good cigars; nor is one wont to enjoy a "penny pickwick" because it is the first of its sort one ever smoked. However, it is a fact in human nature that jests do not improve by keeping—except, indeed, in the estimation of their owners; and it is greatly to be wished that all proprietors (whether by right of invention or otherwise) of puns, conundrums, and repartees would bear this psychological anomaly in mind.

Yet there is one class of joke which forms an apparent exception to this rule. One hears, in most families, allusions, quite unintelligible to outsiders, which would seem to have a fixed value in laughter; they are greeted with a certain amount of merriment whenever they make their appearance, and those most frequently heard are generally the most loudly welcomed. They are sacred things, mysterious to the uninitiated, and prized therefore all the more by those who understand them; though one cannot help wondering whether the younger branches of a family ever grow up in the belief in certain merry allusions, and the habit of laughing at them heartily, without any distinct knowledge of their origin or meaning. Who has not been present, a stranger, at family meetings, when shouts of laughter have been raised by some such remark as "like the tall tax-gatherer—eh, Lucy?" or, if one has perhaps alluded to boots, "Willie knows the price of blacking, don't you, Willie?"—observations which, though to the outsider they convey no meaning whatever, cause Lucy or William to grow scarlet, and are evidently to the initiated choicer than Sheridan at his keenest. One tries in vain to guess who or what the tall tax-gatherer may have been—whether he was supposed to have hopelessly adored Lucy, and called with unnecessary frequency on the chance of catching a glimpse of her (if this theory were correct the joke must be very old indeed, for Lucy is a maiden of fifty summers and vinegar aspect); whether William invested rashly in blacking, even as did Moses in green spectacles, and lost heavily on the transaction; or contemplated a mésalliance with the daughter of a vender of that useful article; or was ever cruelly accused of attempting by its aid to darken his flaming locks: one knows not these things, nor is likely to discover them, unless one of the family offers to tell one "the whole story."

If one can, without absolute rudeness, decline such an offer as this, one should firmly and unhesitatingly do so. In the first place, the allusion one has heard probably contains the point of the joke, and spoils it for us when it comes—"Pray you, uncle, tell Mistress Anne the jest how my father stole two geese out of a pen, good uncle," says Slender to Shallow: and one feels that the whole jest lies in the fact that Slender senior did (or said he did) once upon a time commit the larceny his son so proudly remembers; and what is more dismal than waiting for the gradual unfolding of a joke one has foreseen from its commencement?

Besides, anecdotes of this sort so entirely lose their point when one does not know the people of whom they are told, and cannot supply the innumerable little details required to give them piquancy. If one hears a long story about somebody's Uncle John, which culminates (amid roars of laughter from the family) in the thrilling statement that "Uncle John, Sir, fell souse into the ditch," one's want of the acquaintance with that gentleman's personal appearance which would make the mental picture of the podgy little man's tumble inexpressibly ludicrous, renders the whole story no more amusing than the multiplication-table, at which one is not supposed to laugh. Even if one does succeed in being tolerably interested the first time one hears of Uncle John's misadventure, it is a doubtful advantage. One obtains the character of a good listener, and a very short time will suffice to make one hear with horror the slightest allusion to any uncle whatever, conscious how little it will take to bring the conversation round to that unlucky fall into a ditch.

There is one venerable family joke that we *should* like to hear—the one which has become the type of all those which are admired and continually asked for by an appreciative household. Everyone remembers how Diggory, in the most fresh and delightful of English comedies, begs to be allowed to laugh when his master tells the story of the "grouse in the gun-room"—how Hardcastle, chuckling again over the dear old jest, grants his permission. That story *must* be a real one. Goldsmith could not have invented "grouse in the gun-room;" it has the true flavour of age—one can imagine the rosy old country gentleman cheerily winking and nodding, turning from guest to guest, emphasising each familiar point, and laughing heartily himself as he works up to, reaches, concludes with, the how, when, and why the grouse got into the gun-room. Even Mrs. Hardcastle titters, the hearers to whom the joke is new rival Diggory's stentorian laugh, and the hunting squires, to whom it is an old and tried friend, remove their pipes as their host finishes, and with quiet satisfaction acknowledge that "that certainly is a very good story."

Steam and electricity, modern haste and modern education, are doing away with many things; but small wits and great bores show no sign of change or decay—the former alter the outward form of their witticisms every few years, but change not in inanity and conceit; the latter alter not at all. Still men appreciate themselves, and seem n^o nearer to the terrible gift of seeing themselves as others see them; and still every household has its jokes, rich and rare to them, but couched in a language emphatically not "understood of the people."

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All communications relating to this department of the paper should be addressed to the Editor, and have the word "Chess" written on the envelope.

R.—Many thanks for the game and the information.
J.P.—The large number of problems we have awaiting examination must be our excuse for the delay.

IGNORAMUS.—As you cannot legally move the Knight, it is, of course, a stalemate.
W COATES, J PIERCE, J P TAYLOR, J R L DIXON, G S SLATER, and F J HOGG.—Pray accept our best thanks for the problems so courteously placed at our disposal.

W R.—We believe the St. George's Club, 20, King-street, St. James's, is the only chess club in London that is open every day. We know nothing of the other club you name.

H P.—Mr. Morphy is still alive, and a member of the American Bar.

J G S.—A letter addressed to Simpson's Divan, 101, Strand, will doubtless find him.

J R L DIXON.—Mr. Wormald's "Chess Openings," published by W. W. Morgan, 67, Barbican.

W R M.—The problem is an impossible position. How could the White Bishop be at Q R sq while the Q Kt Pawn stands unmoved?

J S.—We believe M'Donnell, the opponent of De Labourdonnais, to have been a greatly overrated player.

PROBLEM No. 1611.—Additional correct solutions received from Dumpling, W A G, J Wild, G S, Tees Side, Diss, H T A, S T Kirkham, J R L Dixon, R M Allen, Wm Me.

PROBLEM No. 1612.—Correct solutions received from H T A, Tees Side, L Manoury, W V G D, Woodstock, Miss Jane D, A J Allen, Perl, R D T, C H Scott, J O E Rainey, D G H P, Alice Way, R H Vincent, Woe Mee, Clive Croskey, Albert Riley, J E M F, J C Gibbs, A Wood, Pops, G B C, Maridunum, North London Chess Club, J O A, Pagoda, A S Coward, East Marden, J E A, W Alrey, Paul Pray, G S, Spalding, H Reg, E Ryan, Annie Fyfesmith, R F N Banks, J Elvaston, Karl, G C Bruton, Queen's Knight's Pawn, F G Landen, D G R, Jun., C G Bennett, Wild, A W S, Beatrice C, Ernest B.

* The Wolstanton Chess Club, a village club of six members, will be happy to play any other small club two games by correspondence. Address the Hon. Sec., Mr. H. Peaty, James-street, Wolstanton, Stoke-on-Trent.

A Chessplayer will be happy to arrange for a game by correspondence. Address, Rex, Post Office, Thetford.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 1612.

WHITE. BLACK. WHITE. BLACK.
1. Kt to K 8th Anything. 2. Mates.

The above is the author's *modus operandi*; but, as numerous correspondents have pointed out, he has overlooked a very common-place solution, commencing 1. K to Q B 8th (ch).

PROBLEM NO. 1614.

By Mr. JAMES PIERCE, Bedford.

BLACK.

